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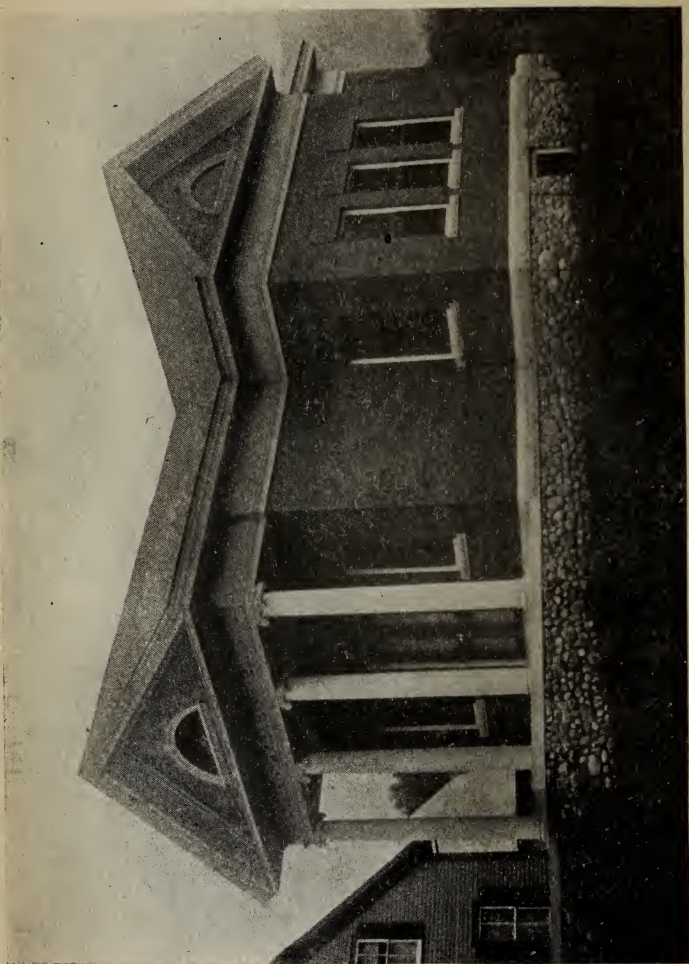
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GILBERT A. DAVIS LIBRARY BUILDING.

HISTORY

. . . OF . . .

READING

WINDSOR COUNTY

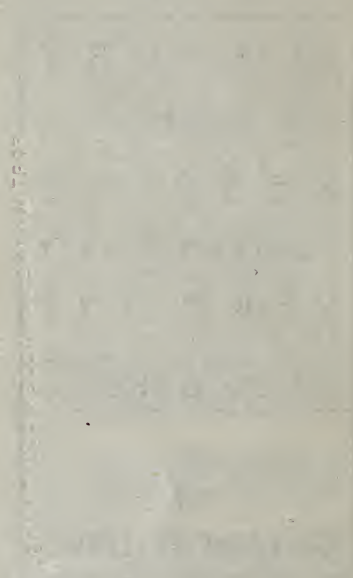
VERMONT

VOLUME II.

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. . . BY . . .

GILBERT A. DAVIS



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PREFACE.

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This volume is the summary of my researches since the publication of a 'History of Reading' in 1874. The plan has been to publish everything that came to my notice relating to Reading and its inhabitants, no person or family has been omitted designedly. A moment's thought will convince anyone that the editor has had a knowledge of the details of the several families resident of Reading.

The editor wishes to express his appreciation of the aid given him by Carlos Hawkins, the town clerk of Reading, and by numerous others—and to acknowledge the courtesy of Mr. Cummings, the editor of the Inter-State Journal, in loaning the half tones relating to Hank White and the Whitmore & Clark Minstrels.

GILBERT A. DAVIS.

Windsor, Vt., Aug. 14th, 1903.



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THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

From the first settlement in 1630 to the present time. By SAMUEL JOHNSON, Esq. of the Middle Temple, Barrister at Law. In two Volumes. The first Volume contains the History from 1630 to 1700. The second Volume contains the History from 1700 to the present time. With a Plan of the City, and a List of the Mayors and Aldermen. Boston: Printed and Sold by S. KNEELAND, at the Sign of the Anchor, in the Town of Boston. 1790.

CHAPTER I.

THE READING PUBLIC LIBRARY.

An Interesting Description of the New "Gilbert A. Davis Library Building," Felchville, Vermont.

—By Rev. Elizabeth Holt Goldthwaite.

In these latter years it is no uncommon custom that men and women of public spirit bestow their generous gifts in person, for the general welfare of their fellows, thus having the double satisfaction of giving personal service and of having assurance that their wishes as regards their gifts are fulfilled.

Happy is the man or the woman who can give an institution, be it of whatever nature, for the betterment of humanity and happy also should be the people who are made the recipients of such a gift.

No greater gift, nor one of more farreaching influence, was ever conceived than that which fosters the love of books in the youth and which gratifies the taste for literature in those of mature years. Who shall be able to measure or weigh the influence that goes out through the channel of the Public Library to enrich the life of the individual, making it thereby a power for the general welfare of mankind?

"Education is a debt due from present to future generations" and he who, in conspicuous measure, is able and willing to make possible the payment of that debt with generous interest, by making available large resources for its continuous payment from year to year and from generation to generation is indeed a public benefactor.

The town of Reading, Vermont, has been made the recipient of a gift of this high order in her new Library Building at the hands of one, who though not her son, becomes through such a gift, surely as an adopted child.

Gilbert A. Davis spent many years in Reading and as proof of his love for his long time home erected "The Gilbert A. Davis Library Building," which by a deed of trust is forever to be used for library purposes by the citizens of Reading and those residing within the delivery of the Felchville postoffice

The Library Building is situated on the west side of Main Street, in Felchville village and is a marked addition to the beauty of the street with the deep lawn and wide gravel walk leading up to the broad steps and generous porch of the Building, whose front is graced with four white Ionic pillars which support the overhanging roof. The front is marked in large gold letters—above the pillars—"THE GILBERT A. DAVIS LIBRARY BUILDING" and over the door and beneath the overhanging roof "READING FREE LIBRARY." The building is 60 x 32 feet, made of brick, with a cobble basement forming the foundation upon which is a belt of gray granite. It is built in the form of a cross and after plans of Jarvis Hunt of Chicago. The outside trimmings are of pressed brick. Within, the walls are of black ash and the ceilings in the same finish with exposed beams and overlays. The floors are of quartered oak. The windows are of plate glass and have inside shutters.

Entering the broad door, one steps into the spacious vestibule which at present holds temporary cases for the surplus magazines generous donors have provided. Large rolling doors open into the Reading Room which contains two long tables weighed down with current literature—at one end the latest fiction and the rest of the space filled with pile after pile of late magazines—and easy chairs galore invite one to tarry to let fond fancy play as it wills. On the walls are pictures of former townsmen, many of whom have passed to "the great beyond." Among these faces of the past one may sit in the blissful quiet and converse with poet, philosopher, literateur, historian or scientist as he desires and his.

chat shall know no disturbance. Still other rolling doors pushed aside reveal the Book Room, whose shelves are shielded from the dust by plate glass rolling doors.

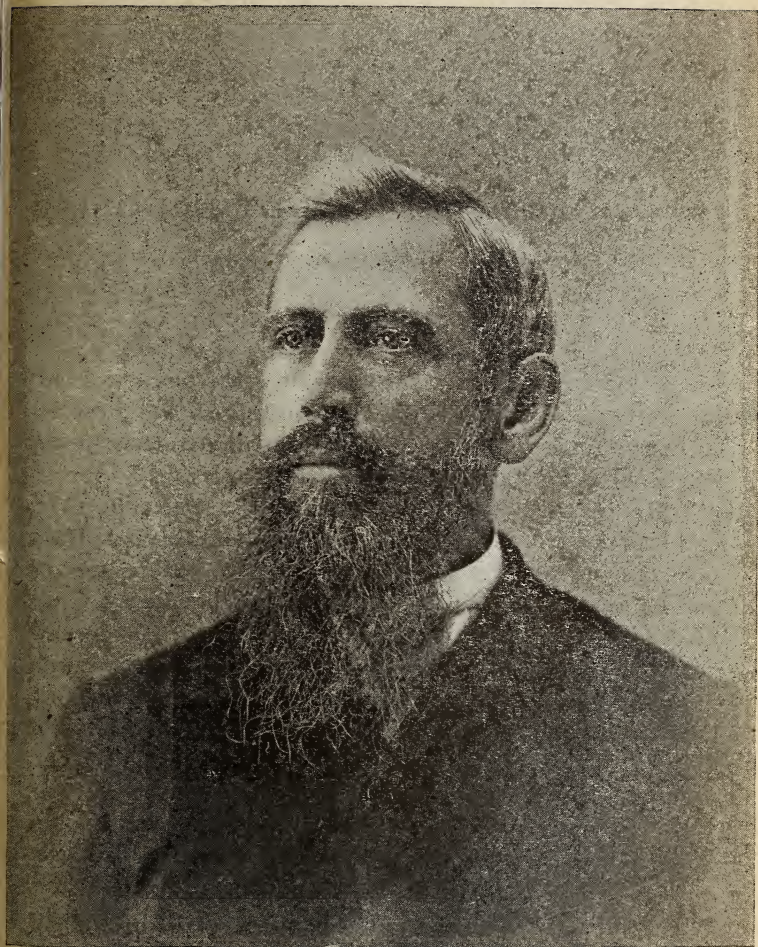
The shelves are replete to overflowing with books, said by eminent critics, to be of a most wise and judicious selection, touching all phases of thought and ministering to lofty ideals. Few if any second rate or trashy books have found place here, greatly to the satisfaction of those interested in this institution for the people.

Reading has long had a Library Association whose books have been moved from house to house as the office of Librarian changed hands. This Association received from the Vermont State Library Commission a donation of books to the value of \$100.00, and public interest has been manifest from time to time through some public entertainment, the proceeds of which were always devoted to the furtherance of the Library's power to do good. With the breaking of ground for the new Library Building this effort gained impetus and many a former townsman was told of the prospect awaiting the town at a not far distant day and with the consummation of the builders work, so ably done under the supervision of Hiram Beckwith of Claremont, N. H. results began to accrue with surprising and gratifying rapidity. The Dedication which took place on July 4, 1899, while replete with many happy incidents, will have lasting remembrance in the generous gift of Wallace F. Robinson, president of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, a former resident, in a gift of 110 books—books of permanent value because of their wise selection. This gift has found repetition at the hands of many friends, until the Library has now nearly 1600 volumes besides several hundred Government Reports and fully a hundred volumes of the War Correspondence relative to the Civil War. In addition to the bound books are year upon year of the valued magazines which need binding that they may be preserved for general reading and reference. Summer visitors and a pop-

ular subscription have made possible twelve of the current magazines for the Reading Room, and here also may be found some half dozen of the weekly county and state newspapers, also the monthly magazines of local interest, the Inter-State Journal and the Vermonter.

At the hands of the Librarian, Miss Minnie C. Fay, the books are nearly classified according to the Dewey System. This work is being done at intervals, as opportunity affords, other than what time is available during Library hours on Wednesdays and Saturdays, afternoon and evening. As fast as funds and time will permit the Library is being placed on an up-to-date basis for the good of its patrons.

To a former townsman this new Library Building with its equipment may seem like a myth, and to our townspeople it is as yet scarcely more than a dream. It is a dream which will only become a full reality when we are all mindful of the power it can wield for good in our town; when we give it the equipment it needs that it may become a working force in our midst. The writer may be pardoned perhaps if, because of her deep interest in this great instrumentality among us, she expresses the wish that is so strong within her that by some means, an endowment might now be provided which would make possible so many added facilities which would bring this generous gift close to the home and the hearts of all our townspeople.



HON. GILBERT A. DAVIS.

HON. GILBERT A. DAVIS, THE DONOR.

(From the Inter-State Journal.)

Gilbert Asa Davis, who presented the town of Reading with the handsome Library building so well described on the preceding page, is a successful Attorney residing in the neighboring town of Windsor.

Mr. Davis was born in Chester, Vt., Dec. 18, 1835, and was the son of Asa and Mary (Hosmer) Davis. Having received an education limited to the public schools and Chester Academy, he began to teach when he was fifteen years of age. In 1852 he removed to New Jersey, where he pursued the profession of teaching for four years, at Belvidere and other places in Warren and Hunterdon counties. While in that state he read law with Hon. J. G. Shipman of Belvidere. Returning to Vermont, he continued the study of the law in the office of Hon. William Rounds of Chester, and later with Messrs. Washburn [P. T.] & Marsh [Charles P.] of Woodstock.

He was admitted to the Bar at the May term of Windsor County Court in 1859, and practiced with his last instructors for about a year, after which he removed to Felchville, in Reading. Here he remained for about twenty years, laying the foundation for a large and successful practice. He still retains an office in Felchville although he removed to Windsor in 1879.

Mr. Davis has always been identified with public improvements in his community. He is a Director in the Windsor Electric Light Co., he has been a Trustee of the Village; he was one of the Commissioners appointed to supervise the construction of the Windsor Water Works; he is president of the Windsor Machine Co., and of the Windsor Canning Co.; is Clerk of the Electric Light Co.; he is also President of the Village of Windsor.

He is a member of the Republican party and has held many important town offices. In 1858 and 1861 he was Assistant Clerk of the Vermont House of Representatives, and to him was entrusted the important task of making out the grand list. He served as register of Probate of Windsor for five years. He represented the Town of Reading in the Legislature in 1872 and 1874, serving in both sessions on the Committee on Education of which he was Chairman during his last term. He was elected to the Senate in 1876, and he was a member of both the Educational and Judiciary Committees. He was State's Attorney for Windsor County in 1878-80. In 1874 he was selected by Governor Peck to compile the school laws of Vermont, and he has published a history of the town of Reading. At the centenary celebration of that town, he delivered the address, and he was also orator at the centennial celebration of the adoption of the name and constitution of the State, held at Windsor, August 9, 1877.

Mr. Davis was for many years an officer of the Vermont Historical Society; a member of the Vermont Commandery of Knights Templar; the clerk of the Congregational Society of Windsor, and Superintendent of the Sunday School. He was an Alternate and acted as Delegate to the Republican National Convention at Chicago in 1888; and he was a member of the Triennial Council of the Congregational Churches at Worcester in 1889, and in Minneapolis in 1892.

In April, 1862, he was united in marriage with Delia I. Bolles, at Turner, Illinois, and their union was blessed with four children, two of whom are now living.

Mr. Davis' work as a lawyer is shown by reference to the Vermont Reports, from volume thirty-six to volume seventy-three inclusive; in addition to that he has had an extensive practice in the Federal Courts and in the Courts of New Hampshire. In 1898 Mr. Davis was one of the editors of the History of the first Congregational Church of Windsor.

On the enactment of the United States Bankruptcy Law July 1, 1898, Judge Wheeler of the Vermont District appointed Mr. Davis as referee in bankruptcy for the County of Windsor, and he has discharged the duties of that office faithfully and impartially in the ninety-six cases that have been referred to him.

CHAPTER II.
THE DEDICATION
OF THE
GILBERT A. DAVIS LIBRARY BUILDING.
ORDER OF EXERCISES,
At Church.

- 1 Selection, Orchestra.
- 2 Words of Introduction by Chairman of Trustees,
Dr. F. C. Morgan, presenting Wade Keyes,
Esq., President of the Day.
- 3 Speech of Wade Keyes, Esq., President of the Day.
- 4 Selection, School Children.
- 5 Reading of letters by Dr. Morgan.
- 6 Selection, Orchestra.
- 7 Presentation of Orator, Hon. Frank Plumley, and
Oration.
- 8 Selection, School Children.
- 9 Speech by Thomas Curley.
- 10 Remarks of R. S. Barton.
- 11 Remarks of Rev. Mr. Parounagian.
- 12 Remarks of Rev. C. E. Ordway
- 13 Remarks of Rev. Mr. Tellier.
- 14 Adoption of resolution to Dr. Sawyer.
At Library Building.
- 15 Introduction of the donor of the building and speech
of presentation, and delivery of deed to trustee.
- 16 Speech of acceptance by Dr. F. C. Morgan, Chair-
man of the Town Trustees.
- 17 Dedicatory prayer by Rev. Mr. Tellier.
- 18 Address in behalf of schools, Miss Carrie Driver.
- 19 Address on behalf of Odd Fellows. Rev. Mr. Ordway.
- 20 Address on behalf of Town, B. M. Newton.
- 21 Address on behalf of Churches. Rev. Miss H. E.
Goldthwait.
- 22 Closing address by President.
- 23 Singing of "America."
- 24 Benediction by Rev. J. K. Fuller.

Exercises held at the Baptist Church in Felchville Village
Reading, Vermont, July 4, 1899, at 2 P. M.,

- 1 Selection by the Orchestra.
- 2 Introduction of Mr. Wade Keyes, as President of the Day by Dr Field C. Morgan, Chairman of the Trustees of the library.
- 3 Mr. Keyes responded to the introduction as follows:

MR. CHAIRMAN, NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS—I am glad indeed again to be with you, and am grateful for the opportunity of having part in the formal observances of this most important day. As I look into your eager happy faces, and behold your goodly number, I perceive the true spirit of this day and the true significance of this occasion. Truly are we gathered to rejoice and be glad. And well indeed may Reading rejoice, for here in the old home and on this festal day of the Republic she has brought together her citizens, her sons, her daughters, and her friends, to distinguish, with fitting and appropriate ceremonies, the most important single event in her history, to mark an epoch in the life of this good old town.

In common with our brethren throughout this broad and prosperous land we rejoice in the founding of this Nation and the establishment of civil and educational liberty for all mankind. But to us is given new and peculiar reasons for joy and praise. We are not gathered today simply to recount and glorify the past. We are assembled to establish a pledge for the future, that the past may be kept secure; to consecrate ourselves anew to the task of educating and improving the minds and hearts of all the people, more especially those of our growing youth, upon whose trained intelligence and wisdom must soon depend, as our fathers clearly saw, the stability and perpetuity of the Republic.

The founders of the town set and maintained a school house on every hill, from which the lights of learning and virtue have gone forth to illumine the earth. The munificence of a former townsman has now set a torch in this valley whose rays may touch the farthest hill. From today onward it will be left in your care. I am confident you will keep it fed and burning.

But I will say no more, lest I drift into a speech, and a speech I have not, though the order of exercises which has just been placed in my hands, bears at this juncture the ominous words, "Speech by the President of the Day," which I suppose may be ascribed to the partiality of some unkind friend.

We have with us many and excellent speakers; the day is hot, the program long, and I am sure of your approval if I omit this number and proceed at once upon the formal exercises of the day.

4 Singing of the "Bobolink Song" by the School Children.

5 The President—

"A number of natives and other friends of the town have written letters expressive of regret at their absence and of friendly interest to the occasion," which Dr. Morgan then read.

6 Selection by the Orchestra.

7 The President—

"I have already said that this is a most important occasion—perhaps the most important in the history of the town. That is what I think; and your presence here in such large and enthusiastic numbers shows conclusively that you are of the same opinion. But we have additional and stronger evidence of the fact. A gentleman who has been for years a well-known name and figure throughout the length and breadth of eastern Vermont as a ready and forceful speaker, and whose services today were eagerly sought by other and more populous towns, has done us the honor and himself the honor, to put all other invitations one side that he might come here to assist in the dedication of a free public library.

I assure you, sir, that I speak the sentiments of every person in this room when I thank you for the consideration you show us by your presence, and for the unselfish testimony you have thus given to the importance of the work in which we are this day engaged.

Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me to introduce to you the Hon Frank Plumley, of Northfield, who will now deliver the principal address of the day."

(The editor regrets to state that he has been unable to obtain a copy of this address).

8 Song by the children of Reading Public Schools.

9 The President—

"There was once a boy lived and grew up among you in this beautiful village, who differed from other boys, as

you will remember only in this: that he was a lover and reader of books. He grew from boyhood to manhood, passed through the struggle and experience of obtaining by unaided effort an academic and college education, and now resides in a populous city of our neighboring commonwealth. You know well whom I mean, because his love and affection for this village brings him often among you, and you in turn have never failed him with a hearty welcome.

And so I know you will take great pleasure to hear, as I certainly do in the telling, that he still differs from other men, and now in so many things that he is called one of the first and foremost citizens of his city, which is noted for the vigor and intelligence of its people.

To have won such regard and standing is a great achievement, but in it is nothing strange; for in youth he was a worker and a student, and those habits then acquired and never laid aside have made him in manhood superior to his fellows not only in the extent, the variety and the usefulness of his knowledge, but in the kindness of his heart, and in eager desire to be of service to his fellow men.

Public office, even the Mayoralty of his city, and all personal preferment he has thrust aside, but never has he withheld hearty and efficient aid in support and furtherance of the public weal. *PRO BONO PUBLICO*, to work for the good of his fellows and the highest good of all is the only master he has ever served.

I know you have all been glad to hear me thus confirm your early hopes, and that now as always you will be delighted to hear from our old friend; who visits us with each recurring year, the Hon. Thomas Curley, of Waltham, Mass."

Mr. Thomas Curley then delivered a speech of great beauty and force.

10 The President—

"We have with us to-day several gentlemen, who

have kindly consented to be called upon for a five minutes' speech, and this I will proceed to do.

As Mr. Curley has touched so well and forcibly upon the true relation between books and children, I know you will be glad to hear further upon this topic from a gentleman now engaged in educational work. And I take pleasure in introducing to you a friend of the donor of the library, Mr. R. S. Barton, Principal of the Windsor High School."

The address of Mr. Barton was classical and appropriate to the occasion.

II The President—

"Everybody who was born in Reading, and everybody who has lived in Reading, loves the town and loves to return to it. We have with us a gentleman born in a distant clime, in far off Armenia, who lived with us only a brief period, but he has travelled a great many miles and made a special effort to be with us to-day, that he might show his interest in us, his interest in our institutions, and his interest in the success and welfare of this Library, You will all be glad again to welcome the Rev. M. B. Parounagian."

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, MY BELOVED FRIENDS, I have been interested in the welfare of this dear old town of Reading. As a minister of the gospel I have labored among you some time since; up and down these hills, from house to house visited you; when joyous, I have shared your joys: when sad and sorrowful, shed my tears with you. When your committee's invitation card came to my hand announcing what a great day you were going to have on the glorious Fourth, I at once decided to come and cheer with you. I congratulate you on your good fortune in the possession of the magnificent institution, the library, the adjunct of the Christian church. Very evidently the donor has united these two noble institutions, the church and its adjunct, into one, building the library edifice in the style of a Greek cross; because where ever the church has gone, in its train it has brought the public schools and libraries. When the Saracens with their Mohammedan faith and mosques went to Egypt they had no use for libraries and they burned the famous Alexandrian library. In the land of my nativity

the Armenian community in the City of Caesarea petitioned for nearly twenty years to a Mohammedan monarch, the Sultan of Turkey, at Constantinople, to permit them to establish a printing press, but they were denied the privilege repeatedly.

I congratulate you for this land of Press and the land of Good Books. Fill that elegant building out yonder with good books, and use it, not abuse it. There are good books and periodicals, good histories, good biographies, good works on fiction, good books of all styles, with which we are to fill the minds of the young, so that there will be no more room for the useless and the vicious. Bad books, bad newspapers, choke them as soon as they get into your beautiful building. Teach our young people that if they go down into the swamps and marshes to watch their Jack o' Lanterns dance on decay and rottenness, they will catch malaria and death.

Hon. Gilbert A. Davis is a man of study; studies day and late at night. In his line of business if he encounters a difficult case he studies until he finds a way out of it. He is studious. I admire him for that. Our benefactor in this generous gift to the town of Reading and its people, meant to will and impart his studious character, and has erected that splendid building as a memorial of the same. It shall ever remain the monument of his public spiritedness. Instead of rearing a monument upon his grave and inscribing on it his name, he wrote upon the appreciative hearts of the inhabitants of this town and the future generation. May his example arouse the men of means elsewhere to the similar effort, and may the Lord bless the gift and the giver.

12 The President—

"We are glad to have so many of our Windsor friends with us to-day, and you will be pleased, I know, to hear a word from the Rev. C. E. Ordway."

Rev. C. E. Ordway, a clergyman of distinction, then delivered a speech that was timely and well received.

13 The President—

"It is fitting that we should now close the exercises in this church by a brief address from its pastor, the Rev. Mr. Tellier."

The address of Mr. Tellier was a forceful presentation of the value of education, as illustrated by his own history. He was born and reared in Canada, and found

himself at the age of 21, unable to read or write, and since then he had studied, worked, and advanced to the rank of a clergyman.

14 The President—

“Before we separate I wish to announce that the most widely known and best beloved son of Reading, he who has lived the longest, the most useful and the serenest life of all her sons—I refer of course to the Rev. Thomas J. Sawyer—now lies upon a bed of sickness, from which his great age makes it more than likely he may never arise.

I know you are pained to hear this, and it seems to me eminently fitting and proper upon this day and occasion that his native town should send him some message expressive of kindly interest and affectionate regard.

I await your pleasure.”

Mr. Thomas Curley then offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote.

RESOLVED, “That the citizens of Reading, in meeting assembled, learn with deep regret of the illness of Rev. T. J. Sawyer, the most widely known and best beloved son of Reading, and hereby tender to him this public expression of their sympathy and the fervent wish that he may be speedily restored to health and remain long among us;

“That Mr. Wade Keyes be requested to communicate this vote to the Rev. Dr. Sawyer and his family.”

[NOTE : This vote was communicated to the family of Dr. Sawyer, and was the last thing read to him. He understood it perfectly, and was peculiarly touched and pleased by this message from his native town.

He died at Tufts College, Mass., July 23d, 1899, and was buried at Mount Auburn. He was born January 9, 1804.]

The assemblage then adjourned to the Library Building, but on account of the intense heat of the day, were kindly invited by Mr. T. E. Conant, to occupy his shady yard opposite, which was done; and the closing exercises were held there.

15 The President—

“The French have a proverb ‘Noblesse Oblige,’ meaning nobility has its special obligations or duties. This proverb arose in the old times, as you know, when the people of France were divided into two classes, those who were nobles or the nobility, and those whom the nobility were pleased to call the common people. But the wisest and best of the nobles clearly saw that their wealth and power and station rested upon the affections and the well being of the common people; and without this, could not endure. And these few who were both kind and wise did their utmost to promote the welfare and contentment of the community round about them.

In common speech today the proverb simply means that if any man has greater talents, greater learning, greater wisdom or greater wealth than his neighbors, he is bound to so use and exercise his talents and learning, his wisdom and wealth, which ever his endowment may be, for the common benefit of his brethren whose endowments may be different in degree or kind.

Will each one of you pause for a moment and consider what man, woman or child among all your acquaintances you love and esteem the most. Is it not the one who makes most liberal use of his powers, be they great or small, for the common benefit of all? Is it not your unselfish friend whom you best love, and do not you yourself experience the greatest pleasure from the performance of kindly deeds? I know you will bear witness with me that this is true. And, ladies and gentlemen, while this has been called a selfish world, and while learning and refinement and the higher views of life have been criticised and reviled in certain quarters, and while the world has been declared to be growing worse instead of better, yet on the contrary it seems to me that the world is much better today than it was yesterday, or ever was before. If the world as a whole looks worse to you than to your fathers it is merely because your knowledge of men and events is wider than theirs. By reason of the newspaper, the telephone and the telegraph you have the evil doings of the world brought daily to your attention, and you pass judgment without stopping to consider the daily record of good deeds which pass unnoticed because they are so very common.

There never was so much unselfishness, so many unselfish acts of great wisdom and moment performed in any age as at this very time. Day by day our men of wealth are coming to see that they are but stewards of their riches, and daily giving us fresh and generous evidences of such regards; of which truth, may this ample building remain a lasting witness.

I assure you Mr. Davis, that I but voice the feelings of these people whom you see around you and my own

in telling you how grateful we are that out of the abundance of your heart and wealth you have felt disposed to make this timely gift. Well does it reveal the inner working of your life ; a fitting culmination to the deep and active interest you have always taken in the welfare and education of the young. And this gift, long after you are gathered to your fathers, will keep alive and active for good the influence which you have constantly exerted toward the educating and uplifting of the children of this town.

I am sure Mr. Davis, although you are not native to the town and have been compelled for reasons of business, to live elsewhere for many years—I am very sure that you are more attached to this place than to any other ; for here you entered upon your long and successful professional career, here you brought your young bride and long made your home ; here your children were born, and here your steady industry and the aid of these people laid the foundation of the ample fortune, of which you have now made us partakers for evermore.

When regard finds expression in such useful and shapely form, strong indeed must be the attachment that binds you here. Nobly today are you cementing the bond.

We are more than grateful that this is so, and words are inadequate to give full expression to our gratitude.

You need no introduction to these people, and I am attempting none. I have merely sought to voice to you the sentiments we all sincerely feel.

If it now meets your pleasure, we are ready to receive your formal offering of this noble and appropriate edifice across the way."

Mr. Davis came forward and in a few well chosen words, presented the deed of trust which conveyed the title in trust to his son, Gilbert Franklin Davis, the trustee, to be used forever for library purposes. He also delivered a duplicate deed to B. M. Newton, Chairman of the board of Selectmen of Reading. Mr. Gilbert Franklin Davis came forward and accepted the deed, and executed the acceptance, promising to carry out the trust, therein named.

[NOTE: This deed has been recorded in the real estate records of Reading.]

16 The President—

“This Library Building is now deeded in perpetuity to a Trustee for the use and benefit of the Town. The Town as the beneficial owner of the Library Building, and as the owner of the books within its walls, has anticipated this occasion, by choosing trustees to have the care and oversight of the same; and the Chairman of the Board, Dr. F. C. Morgan, in their behalf, will now make a formal acceptance of the gift.”

Dr. F. C. Morgan said :

PRESIDENT OF THE DAY, HON. G. A. DAVIS, FELLOW CITIZENS—A new page is this day made for the history of the town of Reading. There will be upon that page the record of an act, the most valuable which has ever been performed by any of the town's residents, past or present, in the full meaning of the expression. No words can portray at this time the value of this bestowment, but the results of the establishment of this fine institution, in all the years to come, will delineate the full power wrapped up in a public edifice, devoted to the advancement and wide dissemination of elevating knowledge. What nobler act can any man do, than to spend some time and money, in the building of such structures

as this, which are sure to promote the interests of all in education. There is at present a great interest in the growth of this enterprise, for so many of the old residents have given liberally of valuable volumes and money, to aid the good work, as have also local individuals. May the donor of this beautiful building live for many long years to see the influence of his noble gift to this town, spread far and wide, increasing the educational standard of the young especially as they mature to adult life. In behalf of the trustees of the library, the officers of the town and the people, I will express to you, Mr. Davis, our high appreciation of this gift, and our gratitude for your esteem for the town. This is indeed a most estimable motive, and again, I THANK YOU

17 The President—

“It was the custom of our first forefathers among these hills and valleys when about to enter upon any great and important undertaking first to invoke the blessing and the guidance of Almighty God. In this simple and reverent faith and in its public expression they lived and wrought and died.

And thus living and working in the constant sight and fear of the Lord, their works have endured. Yea though generations have since come and gone, the monuments of their toil still greet and serve us on every hand.

Let us therefore not wander from the safe path wherein our ancestors walked and were blessed and prospered of God; but rather let us imitate their wisdom and prudence, and, before entering further upon the exercises of this most important day, invoke the Divine blessing.

The Rev. Thomas Tellier will lead us.”

Prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Teller.

The President--

“In the olden days the church and the state, or in other words, the town and the parish were one, and though with the multiplication of churches and beliefs they became and have remained separated, yet the churches have not suffered by the change nor lost their interest in all things that pertain to the welfare of the town. In behalf of the churches and the church-going people of this community, Miss E. H. Goldthwait, pastor of the Universalist church in Felchville was to have made response. And it is with regret that I announce her unavoidable absence. She has however put in writing what she desired to say, and Dr. F. C. Morgan will read what she has written.”

Address of Miss Goldthwait, as read by Dr. F. C. Morgan :

Environment and Association form a large element in the moulding forces of noble character. The sense of beauty fitly trained exerts a great influence upon the deeper life of man. We have in this magnificent library building a potent illustration of this thought. I maintain that this village will progress along the higher lines of being because of the artistic structure in our midst. A year hence our homes in their outward semblance will have become changed, our village street will, I believe, be even more beautiful than it is at present. And the year's influence of the power which is held within this building will have become manifest within our homes and within our own lives.

No element in the past has come into our village life that will so materially help on the work the church is endeavoring to do, than this gift of our former townsman.

Education and religion are working hand in hand for the uplift of humanity, and today we are become the proud possessors of an instrumentality which will make our town,—if we use the power it contains—even more illustrious in the future for its worthy and notable

men and women than it has even been in the past.

Personally, I rejoice at the good fortune of our town and in behalf of our churches, I express heartfelt gratitude to the donor and sincere congratulation to our people for this power given unto us for the moulding of that life which is abiding.

18 The President—

“The spirit of progress is renewing its ancient vigor in these good old hill towns. To be sure its people do not imitate their city brethren in vain waste of effort and strength over things that are futile or spend their time or substance in societies and clubs that are detrimental to the community’s welfare; but they do seize hold of and cling to that which is good.

They have recently established here a lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, because this order is proving of great benefit to mankind. I do not have the honor of membership but I freely give my testimony to its merit and worth. I congratulate this community upon having this lodge in its midst. I am sure its influence will be all for good.

We have with us a member of the order from Windsor, a minister of God, and a minister and fellow to his fellowmen, who has kindly consented to speak in behalf of the members of the local lodge—the Rev. C. E. Ordway, will tell how the Order views the establishment of this library in its midst.”

Rev. C. E. Ordway responded eloquently in behalf of Felchville Lodge, No. 62, I. O. O. F.

19 The President—

“The community is formally represented here today in its political capacity by its Board of Selectmen, whose chairman, Mr. Burton M. Newton, will now respond in behalf of the Town.”

MR. PRESIDENT, HON. GILBERT A. DAVIS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN—After listening as you have to these most eloquent speeches, it would be a failure upon my

part to even attempt to say anything further of interest relative to this dedication ; but, Mr. Davis, you have been a resident of this town for a great many years, and since you moved to Windsor a few years ago, you have visited this place almost weekly, and you have met the people of this town and immediate vicinity, and have done business with them and for them, which has placed you in a position to acquire a personal knowledge of their requirements better than any man living or dead, and you have learned by your long experience that which would be of the most value for their future happiness and prosperity.

You have at this time very appropriately expressed your love and affection for these people with whom you have associated during this long number of years, by the erection and gift of this most worthy building.

I in behalf of the Board of Selectmen, in behalf of every man woman and child of this town, extend to you today our sincere thanks and due appreciation for your greatness and your goodness, for this most excellent and noble edifice.

20 The President—

“The great good that is to be derived from the books that from this day forth are to be freely offered to this fortunate community will be the benefit conferred not upon you, but upon your children. Upon the parents, and much, very much upon the teachers in your schools will rest the privilege and the duty of arousing among the children a genuine and hearty liking for the reading of instructive and entertaining books. Let your children but acquire this habit, and the continued well-being of this neighborhood is permanently assured.

Among the present teachers in your schools who are fully conscious of all this, and alert in the performance of their duty, is Miss Carrie Driver, who will say a few words on behalf of the schools.”

21 Miss Driver read an address in behalf of the schools of Reading.

The President—

“This closes, ladies and gentlemen the formal exercises of the day, but before closing I desire to emphasize the remark of the donor that this gift is worth to you precisely what you make of it. You have been very active in securing additions of books and pictures. You already have books enough, if carefully read and studied, to make one well read and learned in almost any department of human endeavor. I sincerely hope that you will now devote equal activity and industry in seeing to it that the youth of this town are made to make the best possible use of the opportunities which are here and henceforth to be freely offered them.

You will be pleased to know that the old library of six hundred odd volumes, which was all you had a few months ago, has been added to with gifts of upwards of nine hundred volumes of new and useful books, besides several hundred reports and magazines, the voluntary gifts for the most part from the natives of the town who have taken this means of showing their regard for the place of their birth.

The list of donors is altogether too long for me to read to you at this time owing to the lateness of the hour, but I cannot refrain from mentioning a few.

The Hon. Wallace F. Robinson, of Boston, Mass., whose recent munificent gift to the town for the care of the South Reading cemetery is fresh in your minds, has just given fresh token of his affection for his native town by placing in the library more than one hundred volumes which have been this day received from Little, Brown & Co., and are now unpacked in the library for view. These books are selected with reference to American History, and cover almost every phase of the development of this continent. With these books in your midst each and every one of you may become thoroughly conversant with whatever portion of that history claims your interest.

The Hon. A. N. Swain, of Bellows Falls, has donated over two hundred books from his private Library; and those who are familiar with his constant interest in the town of his birth, and his well known generosity of heart are aware that the success and welfare of this Library will be his constant care.

You will also be pleased to hear that Mrs. Dr. Osborne is with you to day, and has promised to give a portrait of her husband, who successfully practiced medicine here for many years, more than a generation ago.

I also have in my hand a letter from Mrs. Annie E. Robinson, of Taunton, Mass., promising a like portrait of her late husband, the well remembered and beloved Dr. Robinson, who succeeded Dr. Osborne as the practicing physician of this village.

If you will now all join in singing "America," we will then close the exercises of the day with the offering of the benediction."

22 Exercises closed by singing of "America."

23 Pronouncing of the benediction by the Rev. J. K. Fuller.

CHAPTER III.

OLD HOME DAY IN READING.

A Celebration which Marks a Red Letter Day in the Calendar.

Sons and Daughters Gladly Responded and about 1000 People Gathered in the School Yard.—Vt. Standard.

Wednesday, Aug. 14, 1901, was the day selected for the observances for this town.

A large crowd assembled in front of the schoolhouse in Felchville and as a preliminary exercise there was a registration of the returning sons and daughters of the town and a hearty exchange of greetings and renewal of acquaintances of by-gone days. Natives and former residents came by the hundred.

The Windsor Cornet Band of fifteen pieces was in attendance and gave some of their choicest selections and were most heartily applauded.

Rev. Chas. Wells, former pastor of the Universalist church here, now located in Bethel, asked the great concourse to unite in the Lord's prayer, and all, with bowed heads, joined in the recital. This was followed by a brief invocation of the divine blessing upon the returning children of Reading. The President of the Day, George D. Burnham, in a few well chosen welcoming words, introduced B. M. Newton who delivered a very cordial greeting to the home-comers in behalf of the residents of the town. The remarks of Mr. Newton were in a happy vein and touched a sympathetic chord. He said that the citizens of Reading felt honored by the presence of so many.

This was followed by a greeting song by that veteran singer, O. S. Holden. Mr. Holden is the survivor of that well known trio, Geo. M. Clark, Hank White, and O. S. Holden, whose melodies have so often delighted Vermont audiences. The President then introduced Hon. Gilbert A. Davis of Windsor as a gentleman who held a warm place in the respect and gratitude of the people of Reading for what he had done for the town in providing a public library building and in many other respects. Mr. Davis was heartily applauded as he arose to speak. Mr. Davis said in substance—

“The word ‘home’ touches a tender chord in every heart.

Be it ever so homely, there is no place like home.

’Tis sweet to be remembered in the old home town.

The sight of these beautiful valleys and hills, these rocks and rills, these woods and homes, these churches and schoolhouses, brings crowding into the memory the happy days of ‘long ago’.

Although Reading is not my birth place, here I began my professional career, here my children were born, here was my home for nineteen years; and so I join the multitude today, of pilgrims to this Mecca of earlier years, and place my grateful wreath upon Reading’s altar and greet one and all of my acquaintances.

The invitations went out, and from places far and near have come the boys and girls to give an account of themselves while away from home. I notice that you have not “killed the fatted calf” for us nor put a ring upon the finger—have not treated us as Prodigals—but have spread for us a feast of such good things as I do not find away from Reading, and you have greeted us with a hearty Reading welcome.

We find to day that all roads lead to Reading and have been built not to enable Reading people to get away from this town, but to enable its sons and daughters to get back to the old home. Reading is the grand center to-

day. As the wag expressed it, 'You can start at Reading and go anywhere in the whole world.'

The great object of this gathering is to strengthen the home ties, to keep the non-residents in touch with the residents and interested in the welfare and development of the town.

Reading boys and girls, wherever they locate, are proud of the old town. No other town can equal it in the beauty of its scenery, the productiveness of its soil, the healthfulness of its breezes, the variety of its climate or the depths of its snow banks.

The old roads are rough, yet beautiful; fish are just as scarce as ever, and game just as plenty.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead

Who never to himself hath said,

'This is my own, my native land'?"

Be this as it may, it behooves us to counsel together here today as to the future of Reading, having in mind the changing trend of affairs.

So far as our ancestors were right, we follow in their illustrious footsteps. Ours is no Chinese worship of the ancestors. We must unlearn many things that we have learned. The science of fifty years ago is almost obsolete now. Discovery pushes ahead with leaps and bounds, and beckons colleges as well as private citizens to follow. In this age of colossal fortunes, it is interesting, to watch and learn as to how much money has been generously given for the endowment of colleges, libraries, hospitals and other public institutions.

Some of the old professions are certainly being badly cut into by modern systems and ideas. It has reached that point that the old toper has found a new and to him unanswerable excuse for taking his whiskey straight, for fear of the death-breeding microbes, bacilli and germs recently discovered in the sparkling water.

At the time of the great flood of 1869, that so badly wrecked the roads and farms in Reading, another excuse

HISTORY OF READING.

was found by the same veteran toper: 'Water is dangerous stuff—let it alone.'

The story of Vermont will never cease to be of interest. Ethan Allen, the Rangers, the Green Mountain Boys, the story of Captive Johnson and other captives, as commemorated by the tablets erected in this town, the beech seal, the battle of Bennington, the Westminster Massacre where was shed the first blood of the American Revolution, the Independent Republic (organized at Windsor in July, 1777, at a convention in which Andrew Spear sat as the representative of Reading) and maintaining its integrity, resisting alike the pretentious claims of New Hampshire and New York to jurisdiction over its territory and inhabitants, until admitted into the Union in February, 1791, as a sovereign state, the subduing of the forests, her remarkable record as the mother of statesmen and of men and women eminent in every department of life, her loyalty in the Great Rebellion, furnishing over 34,000 men for the Union Army, are told throughout the Union and listened to with intense interest, for there is not a nook or corner, a hamlet or city, to which the restless energies of her sons has not penetrated. I have ever taken a lively interest in her history.

Every fact relating to the history of Reading from the charter of the town, July 6, 1761, to the publication of my history in 1874 was then gathered and published. Since that time, I have been an industrious student of its history, and have gathered a large mass of data which ought to be published in a second volume.

You, each of you, are possessed of facts that ought to be added to this history, and I ask you to put them upon paper and hand them to me for use at the proper time.

By the choice of your committee, I am honored with an invitation to address you, and will take this occasion to express some of my ideas about the welfare of Reading, leaving the eloquence and frill to the boys who are to

have the platform this afternoon. Then the fountains of wit and eloquence will be tapped, and you will have a feast of reason and flow of soul.

Reading, to be sure, is an inland town—all the streams run out of it—and many of the young people migrate early in life; nevertheless, Reading has been a good place to be born in, to live in, and a royal place to come back to.

The labor-saving farm machinery, the cheese factories, and the improvements within the reach of every farmer and his wife, and within the reach of every business man, have reduced the hours of labor in all vocations, and afforded more time for study and recreation.

Reading's best crop must continue to be, as it has been, honest, industrious, intelligent, ambitious boys and girls.

My earnest plea today is for the home and fireside, for God and native land, that these beautiful homes in Reading may be made attractive and elevating.

“Home is the resort

Of love, of joy, of peace and plenty, where friends,
Supporting and supported, polished friends
And dear relations mingle into bliss.”

—Thomson's Seasons.

“Let me live amidst high thoughts and smiles
As beautiful as love; with grasping hands
And a heart that flutters with diviner love
Whene'er my step is heard.”

—Proctor's *Mirandola*.

I am not a believer in chance, I am a believer in the cold logic of cause and effect. All great results are achieved as the result of either knowledge or wisdom, and the best results are reached by a combination of the two. Knowledge is the storage battery, wisdom is the application of facts to the conditions of life. The boy must not only go through the college, but the college

must go through him, before he is educated. There must be less of dress parade, and more of solid study. The young lady was not educated whose boast was, as she returned from her college term, that she had learned to do up her hair in nineteen different ways.

Athletics are proper and to be encouraged, but not to the development of the muscle at the expense of the brain. I am interested in a ball game, in the manly strife for honorable victory, in the partisan loyalty in support of 'our team'. It is a part of the education of the average modern boy. In it he will stand up under kicks, punches and whacks, without wincing, and come home with a black eye or a score of bruises, without wincing, and with glorious pluck.

The common school, the high school, colleges, universities, technical schools, professional schools, are some of the ways of getting an education, just as riding a bicycle or an automobile are some of the ways of locomotion.

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The bicycle and the automobile all serve on the whole quicker and better than walking or riding on horse-back. Schools and colleges are on the whole the shortest cuts to an education, but they are by no means the only routes, since in education the process itself is as important as the result; frequently the longer way proves to be the better in the end.

An educated person is one who has made some small department of the world expressive of his own reason and purpose. He has first mastered himself and then has mastered the crude elements about him. The schools may have helped him.

What science and art do for the college students, hard work in the chosen line and religion together do for the people outside. Neither intellectual work done as mere drudgery, nor religion received on mere authority, without rational investigation, can ever produce that specific

mastery which is the ear-mark of an educated man. For the person who is too lazy to work patiently at the prosaic details of some special employment for the sake of some practical or artistic end, for the person who is too slothful to search and interpret the lessons of the rocks, the flowers, the development of geological research, the results of the excavations among the buried cities of the East, the developments of the sciences, the discoveries of astronomy, to comprehend these wonderful developments from hard won conquests over the stubborn materials, there is no such thing as education in or out of school. Each needs a mastery of self and of particular lines of knowledge and a reverent faith in the Great Creator.

The public library, with its well selected books, presenting the latest results of scientific researches, the choicest thoughts of the great poets and authors, the latest discoveries in science, the brightest fiction, the choicest literature of the ages, affords to every man, woman and child the golden opportunity for an education.

The man who makes his farm or shop, office or store, expressive of intelligent order and study; the woman who makes her kitchen or parlor truly, strongly, neatly, sweetly expressive of a sane and kindly purpose, 'is on the right road to an education.

Disabuse yourselves of the idea, if you ever entertained it, that a birth or residence in an inland town like Reading is necessarily a disadvantage. Let me remind you that some of the greatest statesmen, generals, agriculturists, inventors, business men, teachers, scholars and professional men have been the product of the farm or the smaller village among the hills and mountains of this Republic.

Look over the roll, and you will find Vermont has been the birthplace of many of the mighty men of this nation. Their names are legion. Time will not permit

me to enumerate them:—Vice president, cabinet officer, senators and representatives in congress, ambassadors, generals and colonels, governors of states, presidents of colleges, professional men in all the learned professions. Each is proud of his birthplace, and they are this week returning by thousands to the scenes of their childhood and each asking himself or herself, 'What can I do to pay the debt that I owe to my birthplace?' To do something in the way of beautifying and preserving the old town, to build or do something to keep the old town up in the front rank of modern progress, to give the boys and girls a chance equal to or better than they each had in their youthful days, is the thought uppermost in the minds of all these returning children of grand old Vermont.

This is not in the line of charity, but is in the line of debt-paying. Is the dutiful son or daughter giving his aged parent anything when he takes kindly care of him or her in old age?

Reading has just as many square rods to the acre as any other town six miles square, and perhaps a little more, as some of it stands up edge-ways. It has a romantic history. Its population reached high tide in 1820, when the number was 1603. The present population is 649. From among the 'natives' have gone forth seventeen lawyers, nineteen physicians, eighteen clergymen, a long list of musicians, druggists, teachers, bankers, printers, business men in all the varied industries of life, and first-class farmers.

It has a long list of college graduates. The students at law here have within my memory been eight in number, and for many years a theological school was maintained at the Center by Rev. S. C. Loveland.

Of its citizens three have been honored with a seat in the State Senate, and one sat for several years in the old council, while our neighboring town of West Windsor has never had a senator, and Plymouth has had only two. The town has had five resident attorneys, and one of your citizens has been elected the State attorney of the county.

Reading has its lodges of Odd Fellows, Rebekahs, G. A. R., and its Relief Corps, each doing an efficient work, each without a permanent home, each deserving one. Shall some public-spirited citizen or former citizen be found who will see to this?

I, in common with you all, am interested in 'Reading Public Library', with its more than two thousand volumes and its portraits of distinguished sons of Reading. That is your library—I bespeak for it your abiding interest, your generous fostering, your frequent visits, the careful reading of its books, the filling of its shelves, the ornamentation of its walls, the extension of its benefits. It ought to enrich, develop, strengthen and expand the mind of every resident of the town.

In this connection, there is another matter to which I wish to call your attention at this time, and that is, the debt we owe to the memory of the soldiers, living and dead, who were natives or residents of Reading. No permanent monument exists to their memory. They are rapidly 'crossing the river.' I have recently looked up the list, and the roll, as I have made it, numbers about one hundred. You will find a roll with D. E. Washburn and another with Mrs. Kate White, subject to revision, that comprises all natives and residents who were (so far as I could ascertain) in the Union Army, in the War of 1861.

The subject of memorial tablets has been investigated, and I find two tablets of bronze, 27 inches wide and

105 inches long, each to weigh about 500 pounds, can be cast that shall contain the name, rank, company and regiment of each and all of these soldiers, and these tablets can be firmly placed on each side of the main entrance to the library building—there to remain forever as a just and fitting memorial of these boys who 'wore the blue.'

The expense will be \$225.00 at the foundry. This money ought to be raised and this work done, and today is a good time to discuss it and put it in the way of accomplishment.

In the town of Wallingford, Vt., stands the 'Gilbert Hart Library Building', and upon the walls in the reading room of the beautiful structure are placed bronze tablets to the memory of the soldiers of Wallingford.

Let us for a few moments take up the matter of public libraries in Vermont. It may interest you to know about them. In May, 1900, there existed free public libraries in 117 of the 244 towns and cities of this State. 129 towns were without them, although in 34 of these there were libraries accessible to the share holders and, to a limited extent, to the public generally. This reduces the number to 95 that are without libraries more or less accessible to the public. In addition to these public libraries, there were 29 school libraries and 13 academic libraries. In this list I have not included the Vermont State Library at the capitol, with its large collection of law and miscellaneous books and public documents, nor the extensive and valuable collection of the Vermont Historical Society of books and curios relating to the history of this State. Neither does my list include the great number of private libraries gathered by members of the learned professions or by private citizens.

I find from the best sources of information obtainable that these public, school and academic libraries contain a grand total of 420,865 volumes, but large as this number is it provides only 1 1-5 volumes to each inhabitant of the State.

Coming to the town of Reading, you now have only three volumes for each inhabitant.

To show the increasing interest in this subject, I have gathered facts showing that during the year ending May 1, 1900, 25,852 volumes were added to the public libraries of this State.

On this subject I am an ardent expansionist. The nation has expanded until the echo of its morning drum-beats encircle the earth—until our territory stretches nearly half way around the world and includes all climates from the equatorial to the arctic regions, and within our own borders can now be produced about everything we need.

I am here today as an advocate of home expansion. I want better home facilities. Reading people are intelligent readers, and the records at the library show an ever increasing interest in the best literature. They have ever been notable for industry, frugality and intelligence.

The epitaph of the old woman who always was tired was,

‘Don’t mourn for me now,
Don’t mourn for me never.
I am going to do nothing
Forever and ever.’

Too often the attitude of the average citizen towards the public library is that of respectable indifference—not opposed to it, yet as the boy said when asked if his father was a Christian. ‘Oh yes ! but he isn’t working at it much of late.’

I have long since ceased to purchase many new books aside from professional books. Why? I have free ac-

cess to 10,000 volumes across the street at Windsor, and 2,000 more at Reading.

Given the public library, enlarged as it ought to be and will be, and the citizens of Reading need not cross the ocean or travel extensively by road or rail, or get beyond its health-giving zephyrs to keep abreast with the times. Why? Because by books, at his own quiet fireside, he is brought into touch with the greatest thinkers, poets, historians, theologians, inventors, scientists, novelists, musicians, agriculturists, astronomers, and reformers of the past and present.

You of a liberal education appreciate all these considerations.

Their thoughts and researches are before you—your property for the regulation of your conduct in civil and religious life, for your solace and elevation. The greatest thoughts of all ages are at the command of the quiet citizen, the greatest men of all ages are his companions of the fireside. With them he converses, reasons, argues; by them he is amused, instructed, advised and restrained. These are trite remarks. With a public library, Reading will become more desirable as a home for the wealthy, for the retired business man, for the scholarly man or woman who wishes to spend the evening of life in dignified leisure, for the busy man in active life who wishes to keep up with the procession and be broadened by the magic touch of the best literature, by the refined lady who scorns idle gossip and delights to hold daily intercourse with the world renowned poets, essayists and historians.

In conclusion permit me to express my sentiments in the words of another :

‘Here’s a song of our green Mountains,
Fair and loved and honored State,
Of her valleys and her fountains,
And her sons who made her great.
Bright will shine her deeds in story,

Ever more her fame will ring,
Covered is her flag with glory,
And her praises will we sing.'

'It's the best State in the Union,
For the care of that distress,
Which a sight of people die of,
Known as chronic laziness.
For her summer is too fleeting
For a man to sit at ease,
And her winter such a wild one,
That he's bound to work or freeze.
Stamped upon her vales and mountains,
Clearly seen by every eye,
Are these words of solemn import,
You must either dig or die.' "

Mr. Davis' speech was followed by music by the band, and then by a humorous speech by Mr. Aden C. Estabrooks of Lunenburg, Mass., a native of the town, who related many anecdotes of Andrew Spear, the first settler, of the struggles and triumphs of these pioneers, of Simeon Buck, who married a daughter of Mr. Spear.

Mr. Estabrooks' speech was well received, and the exercises of the forenoon closed.

The people of Reading provided a free dinner for all the invited guests, and all those in town who had contributed to the repast. This was served in Newton's hall, and was a banquet not to be excelled in its quality and variety. There was enough and to spare, and reminded the home-comers of the 'olden time.'

At 2 P. M. the people again assembled in front of the schoolhouse and were charmed by music from Windsor Cornet Band. The exercises then proceeded as follows:

Rev. M. B. Parounagian was introduced as a clergyman who has won a warm place in the hearts of the people of Reading. Mr. Parounagian is by birth an Armenian

and came to this country and first spoke English after he had attained his majority. With his strongly marked foreign accent, and his ready wit, he kept the audience in good humor for an allotted time. He regretted that he is not by birth a Vermonter so as to be able to join in all the sentiments of the day. He said:

"I have often been called upon to speak at G. A. R. gatherings and felt my position. I am not a veteran because I was too young and lived 8000 miles away during the Great Rebellion. I cannot call myself the son of a veteran because my father lived in the same distant country. I did the next best thing. I married the daughter of a Vermont soldier, and so I came to be the son in law of a veteran and half of a Vermonter." He said further: "My stay in Reading taught me several lessons;—when I arrived at South Reading on the stage, driven by that illustrious mail-carrier, Calvin Robinson, I wore a silk hat. I looked around town the next day and took in the situation and went and bought me a soft hat, and wore that all the time I remained in town. I put that silk hat in the bottom of my trunk and used it to keep my collars and cuffs in."

Mr. Parounagian went on in a similar happy vein and was warmly applauded.

Dr. Aurelius C. Sherwin, of Boston, was the next speaker. He announced himself as one of the 'boys', who were to have the platform in the afternoon, and further announced, "I came here today with my little brother, Dr. O. W. Sherwin, to meet and greet my former acquaintances in the grand old town of which I was for many years a resident." Dr. Sherwin warmly expressed his feelings at meeting his friends and noted some of the changes in the town. The Dr. was enthusiastically received.

Dr. O. W. Sherwin was then introduced. He is one of the Reading 'boys', and here began the practice

of his profession. His words were well weighed and touching, and he concluded his interesting remarks with "God Bless Reading." This speaker was heartily cheered.

O. S. Holden then gave in his inimitable manner that grand old song "Hurrah for Vermont" and greatly stirred the hearts of the large assemblage.

Frank H. Clark of Windsor, a native of this town, was introduced and read a poem, of which the following is a copy :

JONATHAN'S ACCEPTANCE.

Now Sairy Ann what do you 'spose I found
Along with our other mail today?
Can't guess? Well I'll be bound
'Twas an invite to observe "Old Home Day,"
Way down East in old Reading town,
Where both of us were born;
Where first I met you, with eyes so brown
At an old-fashioned party, husking corn.
I was a barefoot farmer boy
With a freckled face and yellow hair,
But full of life and hope and joy
Thinking of you, and tagging you everywhere.
Those were our happiest days, my dear,
With never a thought of aches or ills,
Breathing our fill of Vermont's pure air,
Viewing the charms of her many hills.
To the East, old Ascutney rising high,
Guarded by lesser heights, somber and green,
Rearing their heads aloft to the sky,
As charming a picture as e'er was seen.
The old red house on the hill,
With a row of maples set before
In a small front yard, I can see it still,
Fringed with lilacs and roses galore.

The orchard back of the barn
Where the earliest apples grew,
The meadow, with upland and tarn,
And with bushes not a few,—

The school house down the road
Where we conned our lessons o'er,
The droning voices sounding loud
As they came through the open door.

Then we got married and started West
For the land of the prairie and sky.
Where we've worked on, with little rest,
Until we're almost ready to die.

In the thirty odd years now gone,
How often we've planned to go back ;
But something has always gone wrong,
Perhaps we were heedless and slack.

And sometimes the children were sick
Which costs a pretty penny, you know,
Or a mule got into the creek
And was drowned, so we could not go.

Some years there has been a drouth
And the crops would almost fail,
But on the mortgage there was ever a growth,
Unless we had produce for sale.

But now that the farm is paid for
And the children are older grown,
We can take a little more pleasure
And journey back to our native town.

And there we'll renew our youth
Among the hills we long to see,
For in spirit and in truth
Reading's greeting will be hearty and free.

Rev. William Douglass of Windsor was next introduced. Here he commenced the work of the gospel ministry, and was pastor of the Methodist church in South Reading for three years. He said he felt great gratitude to the people of Reading for their kindness and forbearance in his inexperience. He had had eight pastorates, and had been invited to return to each, but he turned his footsteps to this old town in preference to all others. Mr. Douglass' remarks were intensely interesting and well received.

Rev. Edson Reifsnider, now of Danvers, Mass., was next introduced. He was at one time pastor of the Universalist church at Felchville, and here began his work as a clergyman. Mr. Reifsnider was in a humorous mood and kept the audience in excellent spirits. He was grateful to the good people of Reading that they had borne with his imperfections and permitted him here to spread his youthful wings, and deliver to them his crude ideas. He related many witty anecdotes and made numerous local hits that were greatly enjoyed and appreciated by the crowd. His stories of Pat and the dough, and the result of fifty shots with his kodak from a buggy in Reading were especially apt.

After music by the band, Miss Ida White read an original poem written by Rev. Homer White, of Randolph, a former resident here.

I DREAM OF HOME.

I dream of home; what happy thoughts
Danced in a glowing train,
As bright as hopes we know in youth,
Through my delighted brain.

Old scenes were spread before my eyes
Old friends were with me still,
And from the leafy orchard tree
I heard the robbin's trill.

The years since they were numbered not,
I was in heart the same
As when my brow was free from care
And soul was free from blame.

I saw my father's smile again,
My mother's voice came through the years,
And from my sleep-closed lid escaped
The last of boyhood's tears.

I woke with thoughts more pure and true
Than manhood manly deems,
The years, and not my sleep, appeared
An interval of dreams.

I woke from boyhood, not from sleep,
The past seemed as a night
And to my opening eyes there stole,
My boyhood's morning light.

Chas. M. Keyes of Springfield was next introduced. He is the son of the late Solomon Keyes. Mr. Keyes spoke in a happy manner, expressing his pleasure at meeting with his acquaintances in the old home town. His sentiments were very appropriate and well received.

Miss H. Gertrude Roscoe, the pastor of the Universalist church at Felchville, next rendered a solo with much force and appropriateness.

Edward R. Buck, Esq., a native and attorney, next came upon the platform. Mr. Buck has represented Reading during the last two sessions of the Legislature. He, too, told some apt and comical stories, which were to the point. Unlike the Rev. M. B. Parounagian, the speaker did not wear a silk hat when he arrived in Reading. 'I came to town bare headed. I was born here and I never regretted it.'

Levi W. Carleton of Woodstock, next had the attention of the crowd. He, too, is a native and lived here many years. He expressed in a pleasant way his

pride in the history of the old town, and his happiness in meeting the acquaintances of his boyhood.

After music by the band, the vast assemblage arose and, following the band, joined in singing "America".

Thomas Curley, Esq., of Waltham, Mass., a distinguished lawyer and inventor of electrical appliances, was next presented. He spent his boyhood days in Reading and spoke feelingly of the old times when he attended the schools, lyceums and sociables of the town. "I remember once when father called me early in the morning and shouted 'the early bird catches the worm' as an incentive, that I replied 'what of it, mother won't let me go fishing?'"

The great inquiry today is 'What have you done in in the world? Reading boys and girls can give a good account of themselves, their records are clean, their average success phenomenal.'

Mr. Curley went on to discuss the vocation of farming, claiming that it required the highest talent to be a successful farmer, and intelligently decide the various questions that arise in carrying on a farm, and he urged the farmers to establish an exalted ideal, and avail themselves of all reliable sources of information and keep abreast with the wonderful discoveries of modern science.

Mr. Curley then took up the subject of the library. He eulogized Mr. Gilbert A. Davis for his interest in the development of Reading, for his generosity in building the beautiful library that bears his name—a monument to his memory that will always remain and be appreciated.

He said further that the safety of the nation depends not upon armed battalions, but upon the education of the children supplemented by the public library. Mr. Curley's remarks were enthusiastically received.

Benediction by Rev. Ira Carter of North Dakota, formerly a Methodist preacher here.

The exercises were attended by about 1000 people, 600 people were served with a free dinner, and 100 with a free supper.

The great crowd was in the best of humor, and nothing occurred to disturb the quiet and good order of the day.

President Geo. D. Burnham was the right man in the right place. His speeches in introducing the several speakers were terse and to the point. The secretary, D. E. Washburn, has worked hard to make this gathering a success and is deserving of special mention.

Three hundred visitors registered at the "Gilbert A. Davis Library Building," Miss Minnie C. Fay and George Gilbert having charge of the building.

There was a spirited base-ball game at 4 o'clock on the ground of A. E. Locke, Amsden vs. Brownsville. The day was superb, the crowd in good humor, and this will be a day long to be remembered in Reading, and among the sons and daughters of Reading, who are scattered throughout the world. Besides a large number of the residents, the towns of Bethel, Woodstock, Pomfret, Bridgewater, Plymouth, Ludlow, Chester, Springfield, Weathersfield, Cavendish, West Windsor, Windsor and Hartland were well represented. Outside of Vermont, people were present from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Colorado, North Dakota, Illinois and other states.

Great credit is due to all the standing committee for their efficient services, to the generosity of the citizens of Reading in furnishing a free banquet, and to young ladies and gentlemen who served at the tables.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

OFFICERS.

President, George D. Burnham; vice-presidents, Fred C. Furber, Mrs. N. E. E. Perkins; secretary, D.

E. Washburn; treasurer, B. M. Newton.

Executive Committee—Dr. W. R. Kinson, B. M. Newton, M. G. Amsden.

Program and Location Committee—B. M. Newton, Mrs. O. S. Holden, Henry N. Bryant.

Finance Committee—C. N. Hook, N. E. E. Perkins, Abel Ray, S. M. Sherwin.

Dinner Committee—Mrs. F. C. Furber, Mrs. D. E. Washburn, Mrs. Harry Burnham, Mrs. Frank Davis, Mrs. Hattie Wilkins.

Chaplains—Rev. Charles Wells, Rev. Ira Carter.

Committee on Decoration—Mrs. E. B. Watkins, Mrs. Bertha Watkins, Miss H. Gertrude Roscoe.

CHAPTER IV.

SOLDIERS' TABLETS.

At the Old Home Day exercises, Aug. 14, 1901, in Reading, Mr. Gilbert A. Davis proposed that bronze tablets should be provided and placed on the front or on the interior walls of the Library Building, to commemorate the memory of the soldiers of Reading, who had served in the different wars in which the United States had been engaged. Mr. Davis followed up this proposition by taking active measures to raise the necessary funds. His efforts met with a ready response, the money was raised and the tablets cast and put in place, and unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on May 30, 1902. A tablet has been placed on the front wall at each side of the front door, and bear the following inscriptions.

At the north of the door :—

Soldiers of Reading in Vermont Regiments, War of 1861—5. Natives and Residents.

Company

Second Regiment.

White, Daniel S., Capt.,	I
Emery, Elmer A., Serg.,	I
Dodge, Lorenzo A., Corp.,	I
*Allen, Henry,	H

Bailey, James,	A
Crosby, John,	I
Dugan, Wm. H. H.,	C
Gilson, Curtis H.,	A
Gilson, Forest D.,	I
Grant, Chas. G.,	I
Holden, Philemon,	I
Holmes, Elmer G.,	I
Hubbard, Myron E., Corp.	I
Nichols, Amos E.,	I
Pierce, Rufus F.,	I
*Ray, Abel T.,	I
Twiss, Samuel B.,	I

Third Regiment.

Bowers, Alphonso,	A
Jenness, Ozro, A.,	A
Marsh, Henry C.,	A
Messenger, Wm. O.,	A

Fourth Regiment.

Bixby, Martin J., Com. Sergt.,	C
Wait, Henry O., 1st. Sergt ,	C
Coburn, Ansel O., Corp.,	C
*Allard, Willman D.,	H
Coburn, Frank J.,	G
Gilson, Collamer E.,	C
Keyes, Gould D.,	D

Fifth Regiment.

Hagar, Henry D.,	D
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Sixth Regiment.

Amsden, Wm. E.,	C
Butler, Andrew J.,	H
*Butler, Oliver B.,	H
Gates, Abel F.,	C
Holmes, John W.,	H
Phillips, Lucian,	C
Pierce, Geo. W.,	D
Pierce, Oscar,	C

Spaulding, Simon H.,	C
Spear, Edwin S.,	K
Whitmore, Kosciusko,	C
Williams, Chas. M.,	C

Seventh Regiment.

*Hoyt, Alonzo H., Sergt.,	H
Bryant, Oscar B.,	D
Gilson, Henry H.,	G
Hoadley, Henry C.,	G
Johnson, Napoleon B.,	H
*Noyes, James H.,	G
Wilkins, Lucius O., Corp.,	B
*Washburn, Darwin E.,	H

Miscellaneous.

Bidgood, Wm. H., Co. H., 13th. N. Y.
Vols.

Wells, Allen W., Co. I., 13th. N. Y.
Cav.

Huntley, Clark W., 1st. Lieut. Co. K.
22nd. N. Y. Vols.

*Humphreys, Willard W., Co. E., 9th.
N. H.

Crandall, Lovell D., Co. D. 34th. N. Y.
Vols.

* Members of Henry E. Giddings Post, No. 97,
G. A. R.

At the south of the door:—

Soldiers of Reading in Vermont Regiments, War
of 1861—5, Natives and Residents.

Ninth Regiment.

Duphinney, Phillip,	B
Harlow, Chas. W.,	I
Morrill, Lewis W.,	E
*Smith, David D.,	D

Tenth Regiment.

Parker, Geo. C.,	F
Dunn, Daniel,	H

Noyes, Rufus	H
Piper, Nathaniel,	K

Eleventh Regiment.

*Bailey, Wm. D.,	D
Putnam, Jonas A.,	I

Twelfth Regiment.

*Perkins, Norman E. E., Sergt.,	A
Bryant, Henry N.,	A
Buck, Ambrose D.,	A
*Buck, Elton F.,	A
Cushman, Cornelius J.,	A
*Hoisington, David,	A
Nichols, Moses,	I
North, Edward M.,	A
Paige, Edwin M.,	A
Parker, Denison,	A
Price, Edgar C.,	A
Wait, Wm. A.,	A
Wait, Wm. D.,	A

Thirteenth Regiment.

*Best, Marcus A.,	K
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Fourteenth Regiment.

Keyes, Elmer D., Capt.,	H
Clark, Geo. M., 2nd. Lieut.,	E
Hawkins, Geo. D., 2nd. Lieut.,	K
*Coolidge, Lorenzo G., Sergt.,	C
*Keyes, Wm. W., Sergt.,	H
Davis, Edmund P.,	H
Hawkins, Floyd, F.,	H
Martin, Joseph D.,	C
White, Azro,	E

Seventeenth Regiment.

Giddings, Benj. F., Capt.,	B
*Giddings, Hiram A., Sergt.,	G
Wells, Edwin L., Corp.,	I
Marcy, Howard T., Corp.,	E

Amsden, Alzamon D.,	H
Brown, James A.,	G
Cross, Levi A.,	F
Minor, Henry A.,	E
Wiley, Harvey P.,	I
*Stewart, Samuel,	G

1st. Battery.

Emery, Nelson W., Sergt.

Emery, Norman O.

*Mahoney, Edmund F.

2nd. U. S. S. S.

Giddings, Henry E., Corp., H

Brown, Geo. E., H

Brown, Geo. T., H

Demary, Edward W., H

Gay, Stillman O., H

1st. Vt. Cavalry.

*Bryant, Carlos E

*Members of Henry E. Giddings Post, No. 97,
G. A. R.

On the interior walls of the Reading Room have been placed two bronze tablets, bearing the following inscriptions.

On 1st. Tablet.

Soldiers of Reading in Revolutionary War.

For Co., Regt., and Term of Service, see History of Reading.

Capt. Wm. A. Hawkins.

Lieut. White.

Sergt. Abiah Rice.

*Corp. Rufus Forbush.

Solomon Keyes.

Privates

Abel Amsden.

Asa Bixby.

Moses Chaplin.

George Clark.
Oliver Davis.
 Darling.
Timothy Fullam.
Abel Gilson, Jr.
Nathan Hatch.
James Hall.
Benjamin Hathorn.
Josiah Harris.
Jeremiah Johnson.
Gideon Kirtland.
Thomas Nichols.
Moses Nutting.
Nathaniel Pratt.
William Rist,
Ebenezer Robinson,
James Robinson,
Benjamin Sawyer,
Cornelius Sawyer,
Thomas Townsend,
Amos Wetherbee,
Daniel Wetherbee,

*Omitted by mistake from this Tablet.

Served in the Spanish War, 1898:—

Charles L. Douglas, Co. D., 1st N. H.
George A. Roy. Co. G, 1st Vt.

War of 1861-5:—

Sardine Marks, Co. D., 33d Regt. N. H. Vols.

On Second Tablet.

Soldiers of Reading, War of 1812:—

Members of 7th Co., 3rd Regiment Vermont Detached Militia. Mustered in Sept. 19, 1812, (31st. Regiment, U. S. Vols).

1st Sergt., Abel Gilson, Jr.,
4th Sergt., Rufus Forbush,
Privates.

Asa Belden,
Elijah Chandler,
Samuel R. Dudley,
Levi Grandy,
Willard Holden,
Amos Lane,
Seneca Marks,
Joshua Sawyer,
Josiah Wetherbee,

In other Organizations, see History of Reading.

1st Lieut., John York Sawyer,
Kendall Boutwell,
David Burnham,
Robert Dunlap,
John Haggett,
Henry Giddings,
Benjamin Grandy,
John Grandy,
Samuel Johnson,
Benjamin R. Nutting,
Abiel Persons.
William Robinson,
Elisha Sawyer.
Joseph Wood.

CHAPTER V. MILITARY RECORDS.

The Military records of the Revolutionary Soldiers, whose names are to be found on the Tablets in the Reading Room of the Library, is hereafter given, so far as the facts have come to the knowledge of the editor.

Abel Amsden, of Groton, Mass.

Private, 20 May, 1775, served 2 mos. 11 days, Col. Prescott's Reg. Private, 6 June, 1778, served 8 mos. 1 day at N. River, New York, in Col. Ezra Wood's Reg. [See sketch of his life in this volume.]

Asa Bixby.

Private in Capt. John Parker's Co., Col. Robinson's Reg., from Aug. 1, 1777, to Jan. 1, 1778.

David Burnham, Amherst, N. H.

Private in Co. of Capt. Benj. Taylor, which marched 8 Dec., 1775, to Continental Army at Winter Hill, Somerville, Mass. Private in June Company of Capt. Nath. Ballard, 29 June to 12 July, 1777, and marched to Otter Creek, Vt., where he received news of evacuation of Ft. Ticonderoga. Private in Co. of Capt. John Bradford, 19 July, 1777, to 18 Sept., 1777, served at Bennington.

Rufus Forbush

Appears with rank of Private on Lexington Alarm Roll of Capt. Seth Morris' Co., Maj. Genl. Ward's Regiment, which marched on alarm of April 19th, 1775, from Westborough. Length of Service 14 days.—Vol. 12, Page 193—Also appears with rank of Corporal on Muster and Pay Roll of Capt. Timothy Brigham's Co., Col. Job Cushing's Regt., raised to reinforce Northern Army. Enlisted July 27th, 1777, Discharged Aug. 29th, 1777 at Bennington. Mass. Records, Vol. 12, Page 196. This name was omitted by mistake from the Tablets with the other Revolutionary Soldiers, but is placed upon a Special Tablet.

Moses Chaplin.

Private, name on pay roll of Col. Enoch Hale's Reg. Militia, Capt. Josiah Brown, enlisted May 6, 1777, time of service in this Company, 48 days. His name also appears on the pay-roll of Capt. Dan'l Rand's Co., in Col. Dan'l Moore's Reg. of Vol. from Rindge, N. H. Joined Northern Continental Army under Gen'l Gates, Sept. 27, 1777, Discharged Oct. 18, 1777.

Benjamin Hathorn.

Private, Capt. Benj. Spaulding's Co., raised from Col. Moses Nichol's Reg. of Militia. Joined Continental Army at West Point. Enlisted July 3, 1780, Discharged Oct. 20, 1780.

William A. Hawkins of Wilton, N. H.

Sergt. in Capt. Walker's Co. at Bunker Hill, promoted ensign, enlisted in 3rd N. H. Reg., Col. Alex. Scammel. App. 1st Lieut. 7 Nov., 1776, later Capt., taking part in Gen'l Sullivan's expedition, and resigned July 1780. Was Pri-

vate in Capt. Hill's Co., on Seavy Island Nov. 1775, and in 2nd Reg. Sept. 1776.

(See sketch of his life in this History.)

Solomon Keyes, Warren, Mass.

Private July. 1776, to Jan. 1778, Capt. Newhell's Co., in Col. Danforth's Reg. Serg. Nov. 3, to Nov. 18, 1778, Col. Gerrish's Reg., guarding Burgoyne's Army. (See sketch of his life in this History.)

Abiah Rice, Lancaster, Mass.

Enlisted as Private. age 18, for 9 mos., 4 July, 1779. Enlisted as Private, age 20, for war 1 July 1780, and became Corporal and Sergeant.

Nathaniel Pratt, New Ipswich, N. H.

Private Oct. 22, 1776, to Nov. 16, 1776, Col. Hale's Reg., marched to Ticonderoga. Private 28 Sept., to 25 Oct., 1777, Col. Moore's Reg., marched to Saratoga. Private 8 March, to 20 April, 1777, Col. Hale's Reg., marched to Ticonderoga. [See sketch of his life in this History.]

James Robinson, Lexington.

Private June 19, 1778, for 9 mos., Col. Brooke's Reg. Private Aug. 26, 1780, to Mar. 1, 1781. In Naval Service 1781—1782. Private May 1, 1782, enlisted for 3 years. (See sketch of Ebenezer Robinson. in History of Reading.)

Ebenezer Robinson. [See sketch of his life on page 101, in History of Reading.]

Thomas Townsend. [See sketch of his life in this History]

The military record of the soldiers of the 1812 war is found in the first volume of the History of Reading.

And the same volume contains the Military record of the 1861—5 soldiers, except as hereafter stated :—

Seneca Marks.

Enlisted as a private of 7th Co., 3rd Reg. Vermont Detached Militia, and was mustered into the U. S. Service, Sept. 19, 1812, to serve during the war. This company was commanded by Capt. Asa Briggs of Plymouth. He was then 19 years old, of light complexion, 5 feet, 7 1-2 inches high, and by occupation, a farmer. He was the father of John Wesley Marks, who resided at Felchville, and was a blacksmith. He married Julia Ann Hyland. His children were :

[1] Sardine Marks, who was born in Reading, and lived in his early boyhood with his grandfather, Reuben Hyland at Cavendish, Vt. Later, he lived many years at Reading, Vt., in the family of Carlos Hawkins, who was his guardian, and who married his aunt, Jane Hyland.

Sardine Marks volunteered and was mustered into the service in Co. D, 3rd Reg. N. H., Vols., on the 19th day of Aug. A. D. 1861, for 3 years. He re-enlisted Jan. 1, 1864, and was killed May 13, 1864, at Ball's Bluff, Va.

[2] Clarence W. Marks, who is now living in Chicago, Ill., and a prosperous wholesale dealer in boots and shoes, at 5 and 6 Washington St. Mr. Marks has become famous, not only in his business, which has made him one of the wealthy men of that great city, but also, as the owner of the world-renowned "Joe Patchen," with a record of having trotted a mile in 2.01 1-4.

CHAPTER VI.

Exercises at Felchville, Vt., on Decoration Day, Friday
May the 30th., 1902.

Decoration of the graves of the Soldiers in the forenoon, under direction of the Henry E. Giddings Post. No. 97, G. A. R. Exercises at Baptist Church at 2 P. M.

- 1 Music, Meriden, N. H.. Cornet Band.
- 2 Introduction of the President of the Day, by Abel T. Ray, Chairman of the Executive Committee.
- 3 Introductory Address by B. M. Newton, Esq., President of the Day.
- 4 Prayer by Rev. P. M. Bauknight.
- 5 Music by the Glee Club.
- 6 Address by Hon. G. A. Davis.
- 7 Address by Rev. P. M. Bauknight.
- 8 Music by Band.
- 9 Poem by Rev. Homer White, read by Frank H. Clark.
- 10 Recitation by Myrtle Coy.
- 11 Song by Minnie C. Coy.
- 12 Address by Rev. Gertrude Roscoe.
- 13 Music by the Glee Club.
- 14 Poem by Lorenzo A. Dodge.
- 15 Address by Rev. Mr. Roberts, of Brownsville, Vt.
- 16 Music by the Band.
- Adjournment to the front of Library Building.
- 17 Music by the Band.
- 18 Address by Hon. G. A. Davis.
- 19 Unveiling of Tablets, by Committee of Ladies appointed for that purpose.
- 20 Singing by a Quartette of Ladies.
- 21 Benediction by Rev. Miss Gertrude Roscoe.

(We give the Addresses and Poems so far as they have been furnished to the Editor.)

Address of Hon. Gilbert A. Davis, May 30, 1902:—

The snows of more than thirty-six winters had fallen upon many of the graves of the sons of Reading, who had served in the Union Army, in the war of 1861—5. God had kissed their graves with his sunshine for all these years, and made them green with natural verdure, but until this time, no lasting memento in stone or bronze had been erected to perpetuate their memories.

The graves of the heroic dead have again been decorated today—a worthy duty.

We who enjoy the fruits of the toils and sacrifices of these men, in the possession of happy homes, a prosperous and united country, are gathered in honor of the day, and as I have been asked to address you, my theme will be :—

“Elements of National Greatness and Prosperity.”

What makes a country great and happy?

Not alone sunny skies and a salubrious climate—not material wealth, not alone strong armies and magnificent navies—not great populations, not alone the learning and refinements of life.

You have but to recall Italy, China, Greece and Rome as illustrations of my negations.

All these elements are important.

On the contrary with these, there must be found firmly planted in the hearts of the people, PURE and ARDENT, UNSELFISH and PATRIOTIC devotion to the highest interests of their country.

We have this idea expressed in the beautiful language of the poet :—

“ God give us MEN : a time like this DEMANDS

“ Strong minds, great hearts, true faith and ready hands ;

“ Men whom the lust of office does not kill ;

“ Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy ;

“ Men who have honor : men who will not lie ;

“ Men who can stand before a demagogue,

“ And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking ;

“ Tall men, sun crowned, who live above the fog,
“ In public duty, and in private thinking.”

One element of true patriotism, is LOVE OF HOME.

It is the rivet that fastens it to any particular portion of the habitable earth. It is forged and fixed while our minds and hearts are tender, impressible and most easily attached. The affection thus established, becomes a pure, deep, and ever-powerful instinct of the nature. Note that plain, expressive maxim, “Home is home, be it ever so homely,” and it is adopted in the better moods of every heart.

The spot where the light of existence first dawned upon us, where we first beheld the blue heavens, where the mysteries of nature first challenged our wondering gaze, that spot, however far we may wander from it, however much beside may burden our memories, is naturally to us the center of the world. There the hills and mountains seemed higher, the streams larger, their music sweeter; the meadows appeared broader and greener, the thunder sounded louder, and the girls seemed the prettier.

There are the particular spots where we played, the sand banks from whose treacherous stones we formed mimic towns and fortifications, the little pond where we launched our miniature ships, and sunk our deceitful though not dangerous pin-hooks, and the young grove where our pop-guns and cross-bows excited the derision of the squirrels and jays.

And more than all, beneath that roof, whether humble or aspiring in its dimensions and architecture, we first looked up into a mother's loving countenance, irradiated with smiles, furrowed with care, or tear-spangled with sadness.

There a father's look of pride first rested upon us, brotherly and sisterly affection wove the silken net-work around our hearts.

He who has no home to love, has no country to love; where home is, whether on sunny or fertile plains, or

amid rough and snow-clad rocks—there is one's country.

MY COUNTRY is but a wider term for MY HOME. The welfare of MY COUNTRY is the welfare of MY HOME.

But not only does the home to which we are attached give LOCATION to our patriotism ; it also EDUCATES it.

On the mother's knees, the child takes its first lessons in patriotism. Next to GOD and GOODNESS is lisped the name of that country which is to be the theatre of its future efforts.

The best country has the best homes ; and these homes are powerful for good, as the mothers who make them are true to their high and sacred trust.

The MOTHER has the first claim, the first influence, and makes the first and deepest impressions. The FATHER has a great influence, but HE had a mother who made him what he is.

Men conduct business, guide the affairs of state, fill high offices, fight great battles, and stand out prominently in the world's history as great statesmen and patriots.

But the large-hearted mothers do more : for they furnish the world with such characters. In the humble, secluded cot, toiling, and thinking, and praying, and instructing the little ones around her, the good mother is shaping the destinies of nations, and writing their future history.

In 1861, when secession had permeated every branch of the government, scattered the navy, weakened the army, robbed the treasury, hurried the great Lincoln through Baltimore in disguise and in darkness, on his way to the Capitol, the existence of the nation depended upon the loyalty of the sons and daughters of the North to HOME and COUNTRY,—and that loyalty can be traced back to its foundation and source, the loyal, Christian mothers of the North.

ADHERENCE TO PRINCIPLE is another element of national greatness and prosperity.

Principles never temporize, no matter what those may

who profess them : they are exacting and inexorable, and utterly regardless of the state of the vote or the count, whether fair or false, whether tissue ballots are used, or the ballot box robbed.

Principles will always have their day in court, and against us or our children, God will give them judgment and execution and satisfaction thereof, to the uttermost farthing, for their every violation.

We have seen death and destruction, the fell officers of eternal justice, abroad in the land, levying upon the very life of the generation the tremendous damages which three centuries of enslaved and outraged humanity had recovered against this nation.

The nation has survived the fearful ordeal, and we are here to honor the victors.

And we have a Republic that is not a SHAM, but a SOVEREIGNTY under organic law, that is able and ready to give back to its citizens something in return for services rendered. This is not a weak, spineless, rickety Republic, or one on any Spanish-American pattern. having no iron in its blood, and ready to break down at the first hostile pronunciamiento. It stands forth GREAT, BOTH IN PEACE AND IN WAR, and by its regard for law and order, by its devotion to human rights, by its adherence to every pledge of public faith, by its matchless march of freedom, and its progressive spirit, has shown itself ABLE and WORTHY to rule and protect this great people.

Among the other elements of patriotism, is a Love of Liberty.

Freedom is the birthright of every man ; yet some sell it for nothing—not even getting in return a ‘mess of pottage.’ The inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are ours. In this great land, we have freedom of pursuit, freedom to ASPIRE to and REACH the highest PLACES of POWER, and the HIGHEST STANDARD of INTELLECTUAL CULTURE.

This love of liberty nerved the arms, and emboldened

the hearts of the heroes of '76, and caused the Boys who wore the blue to "rally 'round the flag" in 1861.

"When a noble act is done, perhaps in a scene of great natural beauty ; when Leonidas and his 300 martyrs consume one day in dying, and the sun and moon come each and look at them once in the steep defile of Thermopylae ; when Arnold Winkelreid in the high Alps, under the shadow of the avalanche, gathers in his side a sheaf of Austrian spears to break the line for his comrades : are not these heroes entitled to the beauty of the scene, to the beauty of the deed ?"

When in the great struggle of this Nation for her territorial integrity—for the loyalty of ALL the citizens of ALL the states, North, South, East, and West—from the Gulf to the Great Lakes—from ocean to ocean—there came about that great uprising of the loyal men of the North, and yet later, the striking of the shackles from the slaves, and their enrolment under the starry banner of the Nation ; are not the noble deeds of those noble men, worthy of eternal remembrance ?

If today I were to call the roll of those sons of Reading who wore the blue, and whose sacred dust reposes in Reading—or who sleep in honored though unmarked—and today undecorated graves—nearer the scene of their martyrdom, we should hear a long list of historic names.

They were men who made history, and stamped the impress of their courage and patriotism upon the age in which they lived—men whose FAME is destined to increase, because they lived and died as representatives of those great principles that are the foundation of our National Greatness, and will live so long as this Republic exists.

The wreath or bunch of flowers, the flag, the other offerings today to be placed upon "the lone couch of the everlasting sleep" of these fallen heroes as mementoes of affection and esteem—though inexpensive when esti-

mated by the world's sordid, selfish standards,—YET ARE OF COUNTLESS VALUE when estimated by the mighty results which have come to the Nation, the State, the Town, the individuals, from the valor of these men. "Graves, they say, are warmed by glory." By these simple services, a lesson of patriotism will be taught the rising generation who only know of the War of the Great Rebellion, as they do of the Revolution—from history. By these floral tributes, we attest our GRATITUDE for all of national peace and happiness that we possess—for civil and religious liberty—for the united country, the venerated constitution and the glorious history of our common heritage; yea, more, we attest our veneration for these honored dead, their unsullied record, and their glorious deeds—"Gratitude is the fairest blossom that springs from the soul."

The members of that great, loyal army that went forth under the old flag, and returned as heroes, hold a nearer and tenderer relation to these graves—that of comrade, brother.

What tender memories of camp and field, of toil, danger, hardships, privations, yea, of success and triumph come rushing across the minds of the veterans at these simple decoration services.

Some of you stood shoulder to shoulder with the men whose graves you have today decorated.

To say that they were partisans, is to praise them. The man who is not a partisan, is without convictions, or if he has convictions, he is false to them. These men were sublimely and simply true. Nobody and nothing dismayed them. They were the ETERNAL ROCKS on the battle line between right and wrong.

They were steadfast and courageously true to their cause.

Their action was not like that of mercury in long-tubed thermometers, rising and falling with the weather of expediency, but they found the line where they belong-

ed, and they fought it out there ; not only if it took all summer, but all winter, and all time until mustered out by the "GENERAL ORDERS" to which we must all sooner or later yield.

There was a vast number of patriotic men who did not enter the army, from a variety of reasons, but yet who were equally patriotic with those 'who wore the blue.'

Farms must have been cultivated, supplies for the army provided, the wheels of government kept in motion, the great lines of transportation kept in active service, matters of trade and commerce attended to, frontiers guarded, the children reared and educated, and the thousand and one activities and industries of civil and domestic life kept alive, in order that all might work in one harmonious whole. Thank God for the loyal North !

There were heroes in civil life as well as in the army. Abraham Lincoln never was in the ranks, yet he died a martyr.

The largest part of the expense of the Tablets to be unveiled today has been paid by men and women who never were in the army—citizens who were loyal to the flag—sons and daughters of veterans—ALL SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC.

These men and women had in them the principles of national greatness and prosperity—the principles that have guided the Government in providing generous pensions and Soldiers' Homes, and honoring the returned soldiers in civil life.

But of the martyred dead, let it be said in the words of Bryant—

"Ah never shall the land forget
"How gushed the life-blood of her brave,
"Gushed warm with life and valor yet
"Upon the soil they sought to save."

The contests of the battle-field have indeed been won, and the implements of warfare laid aside—yet there is a

mighty contest going on around us, and the final battles for religious and political liberty are to be fought in CIVIL life.

The soldier dead whom we honor today, maintained the nation's integrity—yet crime, vice, intemperance and ignorance arrayed are against us, and every lover of his country must today and henceforth, be a stalwart defender of his country's institutions and honor.

America expects every man to do his duty.

Let us show ourselves equal to the duty imposed upon us, and faithful to our sacred trust.

The cause is that of constitution and law ; of civilization and freedom ; of man and of God.

In the words of Everett—

“There is a call, a duty, a work and a place for all, for
“man and for woman, for rich and for poor, for old and
“for young, for the stout hearted and strong handed,
“for all who enjoy and who desire to enjoy, the price-
“less blessings at stake. Let the venerable forms of the
“Pilgrim fathers, the majestic images of our Revolution-
“ary sires and of the sages that gave us this glorious
“Union, let the fresh made graves, of the dear ones
“who have fallen, let every memory of the past and
“every hope of the future, every thought and every
“feeling that can nerve the arm, or fire the heart, or
“elevate and purify the soul of a patriot, rouse and guide
“and cheer and inspire us to do and, if need be, to die
“for our country.”

Address of Rev. P. M. Bauknight, May 30, 1902.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—

As has just been said, I have only recently come among you. I do, however, take great pleasure in being able to participate in your exercises of today. I congratulate you because of these services by which you testify to the reverence in which you hold your brave dead. I congratulate you also, because of your noble Library,

which I among others, can truly appreciate ; but I especially congratulate you upon the spirit of hearty devotion with which you enter into memorial exercises such as these.

My words to you this afternoon, shall be very brief. Others have already spoken many of the words to which I could have wished to give utterance. Perhaps, however, I shall be able to present to you a few additional thoughts.

In the White House at Washington, in the ceiling of the vestibule at the entrance, if I remember, there are placed two portraits, one of Washington, the other of Lincoln. It is right that they should be placed in such a prominent position, and side by side. I wish that every school-boy might read, rather, might be required to read, the greatest utterance of each, words which are of priceless value to our nation, the Farewell Address, and the Address at Gettysburg.

Greater masterpieces of patriotic wisdom and inspiration do not exist in any language. So it is fitting, as we have said, that their portraits should share together the place of honor in the Executive Mansion at our National Capitol. The one founded our nation ; the other was its preserver. These are our nation's heroes, chief of the men upon whom patriotism shone as an illustrious crown.

As a people, furthermore, we gain much today through the honor we do those men who have played a brave part in our country's history. The men who forsook their comfort, their gainful occupations, and their homes and loved ones, to brave all things, even death, for that country's sake, are of themselves inestimably worthy of our honor and praise. But there is a further consideration—the reflex action upon ourselves. For that which a man admires, that he is apt to be. If we so honor and admire these men to whom country meant more than life, that we enter with all our hearts into such ceremonies as these of today, we may be sure that our own

characters will be formed into the likeness of those that we honor and admire.

There is an educative value in such exercises as these in which we are engaged this afternoon, and there is not one of us, young or old, who will not be profited by the education and inspiration which we may derive from the contemplation of noble lives, especially such lives as ended in a patriot's death.

There is therefore, profit to the nation in the observance of such a holiday. As long as valor, patriotism, and the death of those who yield their lives in behalf of their native land, awaken responsive chords of admiration and reverence in the hearts of our American people, our nation stands firm and sure.

Some people tell us that it would indicate a truer patriotism if the expense incurred through patriotic celebrations should be directed toward present-day needs. They look at things purely from the point of view of dollars and cents. Beware! It was Judas who betrayed his Master, who said of the precious ointment, "why was it not sold for so much, and given to the poor?" Those who cherish in their hearts all honor and reverence for the patriotism and heroic deeds of their fathers, our country can trust in their turn, to become her true patriots and defenders.

What our men admire today, is a pledge of what our nation can expect from them when the hour of need shall come.

Tacitus, the Roman historian, at the close of his story of the life of that noble citizen, Agricola, urges that Agricola's relatives and friends should show their love and esteem by striving to imitate that great man's virtues.

Such a monument, he says in effect, would be better than a statue of marble or of bronze since the characters so formed, would constitute a memorial that would be imperishable.

It is such a memorial, "monumentum aere perennius"—monument more enduring than brass—that I would have you erect today to those who fell in battle. No more acceptable monument, I take it, could be raised to the memory of those who are so worthy of your devotion.

LINES IN MEMORY OF THE SOLDIERS OF READING.

(By Homer White.)

Where rugged hemlocks crown the hill
And sugar maples woo the breeze ;
Where bounding comes the mountain rill
To sing among the shady trees ;
Where rough hills rise from valleys green
And streams of purest water flow,
When summer suns light up the scene
And summer breezes softly blow ;
Where furious storms in winter rave
And bending forests shake with fear ;
Where snow lies deep, a frozen wave,
And fills the vision far and near,
This is Vermont ! the mountain land,
And here are bred her mountaineers—
Men born to freedom and command,
Not born to crouch with servile fears.
A hardy race, like granite peaks,
They bear the the sunshine and the storm,
And who for love of country seeks,
Will find it in their bosoms warm.

Unused to cringe before the great,
Each man a sovereign is born ;
Each woman fair makes home her state,
And wider empire wisely scorns.
They breathe the air of liberty
With every breath which they inhale,
And reinless winds are not more free

Than those who ne'er in danger quail.
They love the land which gave them birth ;
They love the nation which their sires
Bequeathed to them—in all the earth
No other spot fills their desires.
The mountain would as soon recoil
Before the shaking of a spear,
As they retire from freedom's soil
So hallowed once by blood and tears.
And when rebellion raised it's hand
To smite the hope of all the years,
No other men in all the land
Rose quicker than our mountaineers
To meet and crush the hostile power,
By suicidal fury driven,
Which strove to wreck, in evil hour,
The fairest state to man e'er given.
Here freedom which, since Adam's fall,
Mankind had never really known,
Was made the birthright of us all,
And dear to every heart had grown.
The nation's life, so threatened now,
This freedom could alone preserve,
And gallant men left shop and plow
Beneath their country's flag to serve.
They left their homes and dear ones there ;
They left their hills, like torrents sweeping,
And on the Southern plains so fair
They proved the cause of bitter weeping.
With others from the loyal North
They saved the land to freedom given ;
Effaced the footprints of the slave,
And saw each cruel fetter riven.
Again the flag of freedom floated
Without a single star obscured,
Without a single stripe polluted,
And freedom for all time secured.

Home came our soldiers from the fight,
Bedecked with laurel leaves of glory,
And welcome to our longing sight
As welcome to our ears their story.
We honor them for dangers passed—
For toils and hardships they have borne ;
May Time his frost but lightly cast
And their gray hairs be proudly worn.
And for the brave who ne'er came back--
Who left their bones upon the field--
A deathless fame we give to them
Who, for their country, life did yield.
On many a distant field they lie--
'Tis holy ground where'er they be,
From broad Potomac to the James,
And from Atlanta to the sea.
From Vicksburg to the Gulf their blood
Has hallowed the unconscious sod,
And in the Wilderness from which
Heroic souls went up to God.
To them we give the word of praise--
To them we drop a heartfelt tear,
While loud we call on future days
To hold their mem'ries ever dear.
Young Amsden, Bailey, Bowers, Brown,
Demary, Davis, Giddings, Grant,
With laurel leaves we fain would crown--
The hearts which danger could not daunt.
With these, of equal love and fame,
Come Hagar, Willey, Holmes and Cross ;
And Pierce and Messenger we name.
And with each name feel more our loss.
Gay, Parker, Coburn, Whittemore,
Wilkins and Hoadley—call the roll !
Spaulding, Holden—no, no more—
They answer not—gone on each soul.
These on the field or in the camp

Gave up their lives—played gallant parts—
And time their memories will stamp
Upon the tablet of our hearts.
They were but boys, and some I knew;
With them had played in school-boy days;
And now to them, so brave and true,
I bring the tribute of my praise.
Long may their names and records shine
Upon these tablets graven here,
And may these bronzes be the shrine
Of patriot hearts for many a year.
Our heroes dead we name with pride,
And they our warmest love engage;
The nation lives because they died
To win our glorious heritage.

TO READING'S LOYAL SONS.

Poem by Lorenzo A. Dodge, Company I, 2d Regiment,
Vermont Volunteers.

May 30th, 1902.

Who are these the people honor
After so many years,
Paying them the lofty tribute
Of Reading's love and tears,
Names of those who rose heroic
When the Nation's cry of pain
Swept across the deeps of Heaven
Thrilling all the hearts of men?
When the hands that kept the Nation
Proved disloyal to their trust,
And the red arm of Rebellion
Struck her banner to the dust,
These gallant heroes rose majestic,
Like the tempest of the night,
Heard as God, the Nation calling,
Freeman, rise! defend the right!

They were men who left the plowshare
Rusting on the open field,
Left the harvest all ungathered,
Swore to die, but not to yield ;
Men who brought a love of freedom,
Grander than the price of gold,
Patriots all, whose grand devotion
Never yet was bought or sold.

Fear not, Oh ye men of battle,
That your lofty deeds sublime,
Shall grow dim to coming ages
Or be lost to future time.
Live in peace, and when death calleth,
Go ye to your graves content,—
Long as this grand Nation liveth
These tablets shall be your monument.

Never since the flags of freedom
To the light of God unfurled,
Have a braver band of men done battle,
On the heights of the world,
Not a man but won his glory
On many a battle field,
Not a man but his devotion
By his toil and blood was sealed ;

Not a man but won his honors
In the hell of fire and flame ;
Not a man but won by daring
Right to an immortal name ;
Not a man that asked for payment,
For the service he brought ;
Not a man who thought of bounty,
When he nobly dared and fought.

Not a man who waited, laggard,
Till the draft proclaimed "Ye Shall,"
But with grand, sublime devotion,
Freely, gladly gave ye all ;
Not a man that fled from conflict,
When the bugle sounded on ;
Not a man but stood unyeilding
Till the bloody field was won.

Comrades present and those gone to glory,
On these tablets is enscribed your honored names,
Years may pass, they cannot change the story,
Cannot dim your deeds of fame.

Address by Rev. Mr. Roberts, Pastor of the M. E.
Churches, at Brownsville and South Reading.

I congratulate you upon this occasion, that through the wisdom of an overruling Providence, it has been granted you to live in such an age as this, and to have so prominent a part in the stirring events of the last half of the 19th Century—the most important in many respects, since the Dawn of Creation.

Of all the ages of the world's history, could I have had my choice, I would have chosen this for my time of coming upon the stage of action.

Could I have been further consulted, I would have made choice of the United States for my home. I also think from what I now know of the history of Vermont, that among all the States of the Union, by birth I would have been a Vermonter.

I, therefore, congratulate you, members of the G. A. R. and citizens, because you have been permitted to live in this—the best age the world ever saw—and that you are citizens of this glorious Republic ; and that most of you are Vermonters by birth. Well may you love your country.

You may well be proud of the part Vermont has taken in making this nation what it is today. She has been foremost in the great advance movements of this nation. From Colonial times till the present, she has marched in the front column in the van of human progress.

Vermont has been weighed in the balances, and found not wanting. Her sons have been among the sturdiest of all the sons of this Republic.

From the days of Ethan Allen to the present, the sons of Vermont, reared on these green hills, nurtured among these rugged mountains, have possessed that hard common sense, and that bold, courageous spirit, of which invincible soldiers are made. These characteristics, possessed by rank and file as well as the officers commanding, made the old Vermont Brigade in the late rebellion, a whirlwind of power, bearing everything before it, and gained the day on many a well fought battle-field. But I address you not only as Vermont soldiers, but also, as citizens of the United States of America. Yours is a nation that has produced such an array of great men, as no other nation on earth has produced within the length of time we have existed as a nation.

Ours has not only been a nation raising great men, but a land of great ideas—a land of vast conceptions; and it has seemed to me, that the American idea is, that anything within the compass of human possibility may be safely undertaken, and successfully accomplished by the American people.

Let us know that we are right; let us be backed by conscience, and favored by the Almighty, and we will accomplish anything within reach of human endeavor.

History proves this assertion. Less than three hundred years ago, a little band of exiles planted a colony of patriots on a wild New England shore. That colony

was under the domination of England—the Mother Country.

After a time, England became jealous of the prosperity that came to that colony, and so intolerable burdens were put upon it ; and that people said, ‘we will be free ; we will throw off the yoke of tyranny.’

So there came the Declaration of Independence, followed by the War of the Revolution, and the establishment of this Government. It would seem a forlorn hope, and yet with a population of only three million, and only volunteer patriot soldiers, (a few thousand) we gained our independence. And when later, the Rebellion broke out ; when Secession came ; when the old flag was assailed—the first cannon shot upon Fort Sumpter, roused this nation to the startling fact, that an armed rebellion was in our midst ; that treason had thrown her black flag to the breeze, and openly attacked our liberties. Slowly, there dawned upon the minds of the loyal people of this nation, that the Disunionists had counted the cost, and that they had entered the war to win ; to dissolve this Union at all hazards.

When that awakening came ; when we saw what the Rebellion meant ; when our patriotism was aroused ; when the loyal conscience asserted itself, there came to the rescue of this nation, two million, seven hundred and seventy two thousand, four hundred and eight soldiers, most of them volunteer, patriot soldiers.

There were more than six hundred battles fought.

Half a million soldiers lost their lives. Slain on battle-fields ; died from wounds received in battle ; languished in hospital and camp ; perished in rebel prisons—as brave and honored soldiers as ever laid down their lives for country ; for liberty, and for home. and so the country was saved.

Today we meet here in memory of our honored dead.

Personally, we bring some memento and lay it upon the grave where lies the remains of one and another. in

whom the individual feels a deep, tender, and unspoken interest. It may be that a father, mother, brother, sister, a son, daughter, or a companion comes with a wreath of flowers, tenderly placing it above the precious dust, 'mid tears and a swelling heart; turning away with the feeling, "that he was everything to me, but I gave him to my country." There will come today to you who served in the Army of the Republic, many tender memories of your comrades.

With you they enlisted; they were your brothers in camp; on battle-field and in prison. You went in, not knowing who would survive. They fell, but you lived to see the war ended, and were honorably discharged; and you still live to enjoy what was secured to the nation, and to the individual, by their and your loyal service.

There is no class of men that I honor more than the members of the G. A. R.

I remember when a boy, I looked with a sort of sacred veneration upon the soldiers of the Revolution, for there were a few Revolutionary pensioners that were pointed out to me from time to time. I looked upon them with a sort of awe I cannot describe.

And a feeling of loneliness comes over me sometimes, when I remember that the soldiers of the Revolution have all passed away.

But there is a class of men in our midst today, that we ought to venerate, and teach our children to hold in highest esteem; remembering them for what they have done—the survivors of the great Union Army, who saved this nation. We rejoice today, that our soldiers were loyal; and also, that behind the loyal Union Army, stood a loyal people, furnishing the sinews of war—sending on supplies of every kind. Thank God today, for the moral power and the inspiration given our army during the dark days of the Rebellion, by the loyalty and devotion of the people in their homes.

We have entered upon and are sharing together in one common inheritance. This country in all its past history is ours.

Whatever has been great and good in the past, belongs to us now. The names and heroic deeds of this nation's great men, are a part of our precious heritage.

Washington, styled the Father of his Country, and Lincoln, the Savior of this Country—their names are household words. And so with Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, Burnside, Porter, and all our officers on land and on sea, together with all our great army and its wonderful achievements ; together with all our subsequent developments ; it is all ours.

When we think of all this, and what may be in the future for us, and for our children, there comes to us a new feeling of responsibility.

When we have performed the tender and delicate duties we owe to our fallen heroes, we have not discharged all the duties that devolve upon us. These men were loyal to the government of these United States—we honor them for it. Are we likewise loyal, not only to the general government, but to the government of our own state ; and also, to that higher government that is over and above all, the Divine ?

We believe in government ; we believe in wholesome laws ; we believe in the execution of laws ; we believe in that kind of law, which is founded upon the Divine law, promulgated from Sinai. That law punishes the transgressor, and rewards and exalts the good and obedient.

We are here today, with the conviction that it was the principle of righteousness that enabled us to stand when the storm came.

This nation from the first, has had a religious shaping. Religion was the corner stone of this republic.

Nearly every colony that came to America, was impelled by desire to find a place where God could be worshipped according to the dictates of conscience, without

molestation or fear.

The mighty motive of conscience, moved men in the early days. All along, the Christian forces have predominated. It must be so in the future. This solemn memorial service would not, and could not be holden in any other than a Christian country.

And who can tell how far the religious factor has gone in shaping the destiny of this nation ; farther than we think or know, some power has been shaping our destiny. No other people have been exalted to such a degree, in all those traits of character that exalt a nation. We stand before the world today exalted above them all.

God, our Father's God, author of our liberty, has exalted us ; He has turned the gaze of the nations upon us. The world is looking to us for civilization ; for law ; for gospel.

The world is studying our Government, our institutions, and our resources, as never before.

Let us not forget that we have the very best country in the whole world—the best every way.

For extent of territory, variety of climate, and richness of soil, it has no equal on the face of the whole earth.

We have a greater extent of territory than that included in Cæsar's dominions, when Rome was mistress of the world. "The longest line drawn within the old Roman Empire, would not reach from Boston to San Francisco ; the Roman Eagles, when their pinions were strongest, never flew so far as from Plymouth Rock, to the Golden Gate."

The American Union has a territory fitted to be the basis of the largest continuous empire ever established by man. This vast stretch of land so rich in mines of silver and gold ; with its immense coal beds—enough to supply the world with fuel for thousands of years—with its extensive oil wells, that today supply the world with its means of artificial light.

God has packed away in his immense storehouses

this immense wealth and held it in reserve for this nation.

More than this, he has rolled out the vast prairies; the great grainfields of this land, sending great rivers from mountain to sea, so that the surplus product of the soil may find cheap water transportation to the markets of the world.

Then he has given us the disposition and the power; the push and grip, and enterprise that enables us to develop these vast resources of a nation's wealth.

The fact that we are freemen, has to do immensely in the development of our nation. Ours is the land of equal rights—all are peers—the rights of all citizens are sacred.

We have the best institutions in the world. Think of our system of education. Our schools of different grades—colleges and higher institutions of learning, give every child in the land the privilege of securing an education.

Our charitable institutions, making provision for the unfortunate; our reformatory institutions, seeking to restore the fallen and vicious; and then who can estimate the power of the press in educating the masses.

And then, who has the mental and moral caliber, to estimate the moral value of the Church of God in this land; with all her benevolent agencies; who can measure the power of the pulpit speaking to the people upon all the great, living, vital themes of time and eternity?

Our internal improvements are of great importance to us. What other land has equal means of rapid transit and communication?

Our railroad corporations, employing a million men in their equipment, enable us to sweep across the continent, with a speed that almost bewilders us.

Our system of telegraphy enables us to impart to, and receive from, every part of our land, intelligence with the rapidity of thought itself; and by these means, we hold our finger upon the pulse of the world.

When we think of these developments, and of the

few years that we have had for our national achievement, we stand almost bewildered at our greatness. We wonder in the way we have been led.

Ours is a sublime height. We stand today, and from this high pedestal, we look out upon the future ; a future lies before us full of responsibility ; full of sacred trust ; bright with golden prophecies ; portentous with high hope.

Soldiers, Citizens, let us rise to sublime achievement ! Golden doors of opportunity swing wide open to let us pass through with immortal heroes who contend for highest goal reached by the world's greatest conquerors. Our fathers died to give us this country.

Our brothers died to save it. We live to enjoy it. Let us cultivate the highest type of manhood here.

That our statesmen may possess those qualities necessary to enable them to guide the Ship of State across the sea of time, that this glorious Republic may pass on through the 20th century, and on through the coming centuries, rising higher and higher, till the sun of our national glory reaches the zenith, and from its meridian shine on in undiminished splendor, for ages to come, is our hope.

With this high hope before us, let us rise and march onward. The eye of the world is upon us.

“Humanity with all its fears,
With all its hopes of future years
Is hanging breathless on our fate.”

And methinks from the eternal shore many a faithful soldier is watching, and the God above us all expects every man to do his duty.

Address at the Unveiling of the Tablets, by
Gilbert A. Davis.

We are assembled today to unveil and dedicate four tablets erected to the memory of the soldiers of Reading. It is a tardy act of justice proposed on the

Old Home Day in 1901, and carried through to a successful result on this 30th day of May, 1902. You have decorated with the National flag, the graves of those heroes of the several wars who lie buried in Reading, in accordance with our National Custom. By placing these tablets on the walls of this library, you have forever perpetuated their memory in enduring bronze.

These are four lists of honorable names. They contain the names of her citizens and natives of this town who have done meritorious service and secured honorable discharges from the Army in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, War of 1861--5, for the suppression of the Rebellion, and in the Spanish War. Errors may exist. No name has been intentionally omitted. If any names have been omitted, another tablet can be provided at no great expense, bearing such omitted names.

The details of the service of these men will be found in the official records and publications of the United States Armies, of the Adjutant General of this State, and in the War Records of Mass., and New Hampshire, relating to the Revolutionary War.

Every known source of information has been examined by kind and interested friends or myself, and the results have been embodied in these inscriptions and in the second volume of the History of Reading now in progress of publication.

The larger part of the expense has been defrayed by the distinguished, generous and patriotic sons and daughters of Reading, who have left the town as a place of residence, but have not forgotten the debt they owe to it as a birthplace, and a place of early training. They love these rocks and rills, these woods and templed hills, and the memories that cling to them. All honor to these generous donors, both resident and non-resident, and to those who have contributed of their time and labor to promoting this noble enterprise.

Here these tablets of bronze will remain so long as time shall last, to tell briefly the story of the service of Reading's citizens and natives in these several wars ; as a perpetual lesson in patriotism to the youths of this town and State, and also, to strengthen and confirm the virtues of the citizens of all future time.

It is proper that these tablets should be upon the walls of this Library Building that is to be for all time the nucleus of learning and intelligence in this community. Education will foster and develop the love of country, and is therefore the foundation of patriotism. In this Republic, the prosperity of our institutions depends upon the intelligence and patriotism of the people, the sovereigns in theory and in fact, and with the school-house and two churches on one side of this street, and the Public Library with these tablets upon the building containing it, the young and old will be environed by such ennobling influences that no citizen of this community should ever depart from the walks of intelligent virtue and patriotism.

It is fitting therefore, this afternoon, to lay aside the pursuit of trade, the toils of the farm, the workshop, and professional life and do honor to the memory of the men whose names are upon these tablets, a large majority of whom have "crossed the river" and are numbered with the 'great majority.'

These inscriptions call to mind the courage, privations, sufferings, struggles, and triumphs of the heroes of these several wars.

The Revolution was a severe struggle, by men few in number, of limited resources, determined to be free ; the War of 1812 brought victory, and enabled the United States to remain in peace for many years, except in the little skirmish with Mexico in 1848 ; the War of the Rebellion cemented the Union, destroyed slavery and made possible the wonderful growth of the Republic ; the Spanish War united all sections, creeds, and varieties

of political faith, in aid of the struggling and oppressed people of Cuba, gave us the Phillipines and other new territory, and brought the United States into the front rank of the world's powers.

CHAPTER VII.

The Baptist Church and the Baptist Society in Reading.

A Baptist Church was organized at Reading Center in 1788, and in that year was received into the Woodstock Baptist Association with 12 members. Isaac Kendall was the messenger. 1789 it reported 15 members, and sent as messenger, Asa Wilkins. The Association appointed Elder Peak to supply their pulpit the third Sunday in Dec., Elder Aaron Leland the first Sunday in Aug., and Elder Elliot the first Sunday in Dec.

In 1790 16 members were added. Total membership 31. Elder Peak appointed to supply the second Sunday in Dec., Elder Drew the last of June.

1791, Joseph Carpenter and Joseph Wilkins, messengers. No report as to members. Supplies, Elder Elliot, first of Jan., Aaron Leland, second of March, Elder Hubbard, last of June. 1792, Daniel Edson and Zimri Kendall, messengers. Members, 31.

1793, no messengers, 31 members.

1795, Isaac Kendall, messenger, 4 added to membership.

1798, 29 members.

1801, Samuel White, Ephraim Hubbell, John Moore, messengers. 32 members.

1802, Wm. White, messenger. 33 members.

1803, Wm. White and John Moore, messengers. 29 members.

1805, 28 members.

1806, Samuel Lamson, Samuel Buck, Wm White, messengers. 41 members.

1807, 30 members.

1808, Samuel Buck and John Moore, messengers. 41 members.

1809, 28 members, no messengers.

1810, Samuel Lamson, Dea. Samuel Buck, Lemuel Persson, Jr., messengers, 7 added, 35 total membership.

1811, no messengers, 28 members.

I have been unable to find any further facts about this church, and it undoubtedly soon after became extinct.

The Baptist Church in Felchville, was organized June 24, 1835, by a council comprising, Rev. J. M. Graves. Pastor, Ludlow; Deacons Parker, Adams, and Brother White, of Cavendish; Rev. C. W. Hodges, and Deacon Boynton, of Springfield; Rev. E. Hutchinson, and Brother Colton, of Windsor; Rev. David Burroughs, and Brothers Bigelow and Lawrence, of Perkinsville; Rev. Ira Persons, and Brother Edwards, of Chester; Elder Lampson, and Deacon Shaw, of West Windsor, were invited to sit in the council.

The following Brethren and Sisters were recognized as a Baptist Church:—

Brethren—Silas Brown, Samuel R. Kendall, Thomas Kendall, Oliver F. Shattuck, Samuel Williams, John Kile.

Sisters—Roxanna Bowen, Mehitabel Bowen. Matilda Kendall, Betsey Kendall, Susan Shattuck, Louisa Adams, Lucinda Poturine, Grace Stearns, Mary Ward, Lucy Williams, Elizabeth Streeter, Lucinda Salisbury, Calista Tarbell, Susannah Densmore, Mariah Streeter, Flavilla Stearns.

Sermon by Rev. C. W. Hodges; Hand of Fellowship by Rev. J. M. Graves; Address to the church by Rev. E. Hutchinson; Prayer by Rev. Ira Persons. Silas Bowen was elected deacon, and Samuel R. Kendall, clerk. Mr. Kendall held the office until his death, Oct. 4, 1869.

During the year ending May 1, 1836, Rev. David Burroughs, of Perkinsville, preached one-half the time. February 24, 1836, the Hand of Fellowship was withdrawn from a brother and his wife for six reasons, viz:—1st. For retailing ardent spirits.

- 2nd. For providing for and encouraging parties of pleasure, and, especially, dancing ;
- 3rd. For violating the laws of the Sabbath, by performing labor, or suffering it to be performed in their own domestic circle ;
- 4th. For paying disrespect to the admonitions of the church ;
- 5th. For absenting themselves from the regular meeting of the church ;
- 6th. For speaking disrespectfully of the church.

On the 15th of Jan. 1839, the church convened at the house of brother Abel Bayles, and called an ecclesiastical council to convene on the 29th of Jan. 1839.

The council was duly convened, and Charles Farrar was ordained to the gospel ministry. The council was convened at the Union Church in Felchville, (then standing on the street leading to South Reading) and was composed of the following :—West Windsor, Rev. Samuel Lampson ; Perkinsville, Rev. William Guilford ; North Springfield, Rev. M. D. Miller, and Brothers Harry Bigelow, and A. Leland ; Chester, Rev. R. M. Ely ; Grafton, Rev. D. M. Crane ; Cavendish, Rev. B. Russel, Brothers S. Proctor, and S. Pierce ; Cornish, N. H., Rev. David Borrows.

The order of exercises was as follows :—

- 1st Reading of the Scriptures, by Rev. D. M. Crane.
- 2nd Sermon. Rev. W. M. Gilford.
- 3rd Ordaining Prayer, Rev. D. M. Crane.
- 4th Charge to Candidate, Rev. R. M. Ely.
- 5th Hand of Fellowship, Rev. D. Borrows.
- 6th Address to the Church, by Rev. D. M. Miller.
- 7th Concluding prayer, by Rev. Samuel Lampson.

By a will probated by the Probate Court of the District of Windsor, and executed April 30, 1842, Mary R. Robinson of Reading, devised the income of all her property for the support of Baptist preaching meaning Calvinistic, so called, Baptist preaching in the

town of Reading, and provided that the principal be not suffered to diminish, and that the income be so used under the direction, and at the disposal of the Baptist State Convention.

The following clause was added:—"I will moreover that my property be used as above mentioned for the support of preaching in South Reading, when ever and so long as said Board of the Convention shall deem it to be useful, meaning that a privilege of claim be given to So. Reading." Until the erection of the new meeting house in 1861, the records of the church are very meagre.

Rev. Robert E. Johnson began preaching to the church September 20, 1861, and was called as pastor and accepted, Dec. 29, 1861.

The ministerial committee at this time, was Samuel R. Kendall, James M. Stearns, and Doctor James P. Osborne.

Mr. Johnson was ordained Jan. 16, 1862. The exercises of ordination were as follows:—

- 1st Invocation, Rev. Sem Pierce, of Cavendish.
- 2nd Reading of Scripture, by Rev. Foster Henay, of Chester.
- 3rd Opening Prayer, Rev. W. N. Picknell, of No. Springfield.
- 4th Sermon, Rev. F. H. Archibald, D. D., of Mt. Holly, from 2 Cor.; 4: 1, 2.
- 5th Ordaining Prayer, Rev. C. G. Gurr, of Chester.
- 6th Charge to Candidate, Rev. S. F. Brown, of Bellows Falls.
- 7th Hand of Fellowship, Rev. S. Adams, of Grafton, Vt.
- 8th Charge to Church, Rev. J. Freeman, of Cavendish.
- 9th Benediction, by Rev. Robert G. Johnson.

Rev. N. Cudworth, and Judge Wm. M. Pingry represented the Perkinsville Church.

In June 1865, the Church was constituted of the following named members, 12 males and 19 females:—

Dea. Abel A. Adams, James A. Besley, Judson

Bowen, Dea. Silas Bowen, Luther C. Brown, Ezra Fay, Aaron T. Kendall, Charles F. Kendall, Luther R. Kendall, Samuel R. Kendall, James Mitchell, James M. Stearns. Nancy Amsden, Maria Bowen, Roxanna Bowen, Sibyl Bowen, Wealthy Dickinson, Rosina Giddings, Susan Giddings, Truth Hook, Celestina Kendall, Hannah Kendall, Matilda Kendall, Melissa Kendall, Eliza Ann Pearson, Augusta Pierce, Hannah Pierce, Hannah Pratt, Ann Rowe, Louisa Stearns, Calista Tarbell.

Rev. C. H. Richardson became pastor on the 31st day of Dec. 1865, and continued to preach until Jan. 30, 1870.

The death of Dea. Samuel R. Kendall Oct. 4, 1871, is noticed upon the records.

1871, Oct. 6, Geo. W. Kendall was elected clerk of the church and continued to hold that office until his death, Aug. 15, 1897.

1872. July 21, the church elected James M. Stearns, Isaac Glynn, and Luther R. Kendall as deacons.

Rev. Joseph S. Small supplied the pulpit, and was a resident in Felchville from June 1871. to Aug. 18, 1872.

1872, Oct. 6, Rev. Geo. H. Parker became pastor, and continued as such to July 15, 1877.

1877, Aug. 5, Rev. Joseph S. Small again became pastor, and continued as such until he was taken suddenly ill Sept. 22, 1880, at Londonderry Vt., while preaching the annual sermon at a meeting of the Woodstock Association, and lived only about one hour.

1881, Sept. 3, Rev. Albert Heald became pastor, and continued as such until his resignation June 3, 1894.

Rev. — — Whittier and wife began a series of religious meetings with this Church, March 26, 1882, and continued 16 days. The Church was revived, and so expressed hope.

Charles Lucius Stearns, and Wm. W. Grout, were elected deacons, but the records do not show at what

dates.

In the Summer of 1882, the church was extensively repaired, papered, and painted.

In Nov., 1882, the Church by vote, adopted the practice of having but one preaching service on the Sabbath day.

1890, June 29, Rev. Henry Searles commenced a series of meetings, and quite an interest was manifested. These meetings were closed July 13, with the result that eleven were converted, and baptized by the pastor, Rev. S. Heald.

1890, Aug. 17, Mrs. Nancy Amsden, who was over 100 years of age, attended a meeting of the Church, and made some pertinent remarks. She died Jan. 17, 1891, aged 101 years, 5 months, 27 days.

1890, in Oct., Rev. Henry C. Searles held meetings for two weeks at Felchville, South Reading, and Hammondsville ; and as a result, eight were received into the Church by baptism.

1892, July 2, by vote of the Church, a license was given to Daniel W. Lyman, to preach the gospel, and a letter of recommendation given him as a young man of promise, to the President and Faculty of Hamilton Theological Institution, of New York.

Louisa Stearns died Jan. 10, 1893. Her will, which was executed Oct. 14, 1890, was duly admitted to probate, and is as follows :—

I give and bequeath to the Baptist Church in Felchville, two hundred and fifty dollars, the income of which is to be used for the repairs upon the meeting house and parsonage ; and all the residue of my estate is to be placed in the care of three persons, chosen by the society, and members of the Baptist Church in Felchville : one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years ; and the place of the one whose term expires, to be filled by a vote of the Baptist Society, at their annual meeting. Should the Baptists of Felchville at any time become ex-

tinct these funds shall be paid over to the Vt. Baptist State Convention, and the income only to be used for the purpose of the Convention; but should the church ever be resuscitated, after having become extinct, the Vermont Baptist State Convention shall pay the income to said church, providing always that the income only, shall be used for the preaching of the gospel.

During the vacancy in the pastorate, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Moses Parounagian, on July 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, Aug. 5th and 19th, Sept. 2nd and 9th.

1894, Nov. 4, Rev. F. L. Hopkins of Fayville, Mass., became pastor, and continued as such until the acceptance of his resignation Sept. 25, 1898, and his removal to Baldwinville, Mass.

1897, Aug. 15, John E. Giddings was elected Clerk and Clarence N. Hook, Supt. of the Sunday School. Mr. Giddings continued as Clerk until his death Feb. 13, 1902.

The church was without a settled pastor for a season, but kept up the Sunday Services, the pulpit being supplied Oct. 23, by Rev. Mr. Kenney, of No. Springfield, Nov. 6, and 13, by Rev. Mr. Davis, of Montague, Mass., Nov. 20th, by Rev. A. Heald, Dec. 18th, by Rev. Thomas Tellier, of Groton, Vt. On other Sabbaths, a sermon was read by either Frank Hook, John E. Giddings, Robert Stewart, Clarence Randall, C. N. Hook, or Judson Penney.

1899, March, Rev. Thomas Tellier, who had accepted the call, began his labors as pastor, and continued as such until his resignation and dismissal in 1902, and removal to Cambridge, New York.

1902. May 11, Rev. P. M. Bauknight, of Rochester, N. Y., commenced his labors as pastor.

1902, June, Mrs. Walter Parker was elected Clerk.

The membership has been diminished by death and dismissal, so that it only numbers about ten.

Rev. Robert G. Johnson was fitted for college at

Fairfax, Vt., graduated from Brown University in 1860, and spent one year at Newton Theological Seminary, studying especially Hebrew and New Testament Greek.

The Baptist Society of Felchville and vicinity, was organized under the laws of Vermont, on the 18th day of September, 1861, by the following named list of persons:-- Paul W. Stearns, Prosper Merrill, Benjamin M. Kendall, Abel A. Adams, Ezra Fay, William A. Wait, A. H. Pierce. Hannah Pierce, Charles Amsden, Levi C. Fay, R. W. Hoadley, Orpheus Coburn, Jonas V. Bowers, Jarvis Pratt, James M. Stearns, James P. Osborne, Aaron T. Kendall, James L. Sherwin, Honestus Stearns, Grace S. Davis, Luther R. Kendall, Samuel R. Kendall.

The organization had been preceded by several meetings, having in view the erection of a meeting house—the first meeting having been held on the 2nd day of Feb., 1861, when Abel A. Adams, Prosper Merrill, and James M. Stearns were elected as Building Committee.

At an adjourned meeting holden Feb. 16, 1861, Abel A. Adams was excused from serving on the building committee, and Benjamin M. Kendall was elected in his place.

It was then voted to build a meeting house on a lot owned by Prosper Merrill, opposite Thaddeus E. Conant's house; this would be about on the site of the Library building.

This location was changed at a meeting held March 9, 1861, to its present site north of the R. W. Hoadley house, and the constitution of the society was adopted—the leading feature of which, was that any person owning a slip or half slip in the contemplated meeting house, should be a member of the society; and any person contributing to the support of religious worship in said house, should be called to vote on any questions relating to the maintenance of a minister or his dismissal, and on no other questions, provided such minister should always be in good fellowship with the Woodstock Bap-

tist Association.

It was further provided that the meeting house should always be opened on funeral occasions if requested by any person, and when not occupied by the Baptist Society, may be opened to any and all Christian denominations.

\$2485. was raised by subscriptions, to build the house. The subscribers were: —

Prosper Merrill,	\$300.
Levi C. Fay,	300.
James M. Stearns,	300.
Samuel R. Kendall,	300.
Abel A. Adams,	150.
Aaron Kendall,	150.
Luther R. Kendall,	100.
Paul W. Stearns,	50.
Charles Amsden,	50.
Hannah Pierce,	50.
S. B. Pierce,	50.
B. M. Kendall,	50.
Jarvis Pratt,	50.
Wealthy Dickinson,	50.
Orpheus Coburn,	50.
Ezra Fay,	50.
Wm. H. Giddings,	50.
A. H. Pierce,	50.
Honestus Stearns,	50.
James P. Osborne,	25.
Otis Baldwin,	25.
Geo. W. Kendall,	25.
Wm. A. Wait,	25.
Jonas V. Bowers,	25.
Salome T. Stearns,	25.
Sufferanna Densmore,	25.
R. W. Hoadley,	25.
E. W. Watkins,	85.

————— \$2485.

Samuel B. Pierce was the first clerk, and he was succeeded by Paul W. Stearns, who continued as clerk until Jan., 1867, when Geo. W. Kendall was elected.

Mr. Kendall continued as clerk until his death in 1897.

J. E. Giddings was elected clerk in 1901, and continued as such until his death in 1901.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Universalist Church in Reading. Rev. Samuel
C. Loveland, &c.

[The facts in this Chapter were embraced in a paper prepared by Gilbert A. Davis, and read before the State Convention, June 12, 1902, at Felchville, Vt., by Rev. C. E. Pettie.]

Very many of the young people have found Reading a very good place in which to be born and spend their earlier years, but have emigrated early. Reading therefore, must look around and learn what has been accomplished, not only by those who have dwelt within her borders, but by these emigrants who have gone forth to make the world.

As I have looked over the list, I have been gratified to discover that so much has been accomplished worthy of mention, and abiding importance. In the limit of this address, there is no time to recapitulate these deeds, but the soon-to-be-published Second Volume of the History of Reading, will contain narrations of special interest, records of deeds accomplished by Reading boys and girls, that have had a remarkable influence in shaping human events.

This afternoon, I am to speak of the history of Universalism in Reading. For one, I am always interested in going back to first principles, in hunting out the sources of influence, the beginning of towns, the starting point of any career. These studies are to me of value, as showing the causes that have shaped and constructed municipal as well as individual careers, and as pointing out the ways to be pursued by the youths and men of the present age.

Reading is more of an inland town than formerly, when the great lines of stage coaches, and freight wagons went through its borders, and patronized its taverns. Then the village was the important center wherein were represented all the industrial interests, and all the learned professions of the day. The railroads have come, and have changed all these matters. Trusts, and large aggregations of capital, have destroyed the small industries, and the inland towns must be content with farming, and the trades connected with, and necessary to supply the farmers.

The cellar hole on yonder hill, marks the site of the first church, and that near by, the site of the first parsonage, both erected of logs in 1787: and in them resided and preached, Rev. Nahum Sargent, the first clergyman of the town, a graduate of Dartmouth college in the class of 1784. This was his first pastorate. He was settled on the munificent salary of £50 annually (\$250) for the first year, and to rise £5 in a year until it came to £60, to be paid annually in wheat at 5 shillings a bushel, rye at 4 shillings a bushel, corn at 3 shillings a bushel, in beef, pork, wood, flax, sugar, butter and cheese to be delivered to Mr. Nahum Sargent in proportion to the price of grains as above stated, and to cut and draw him 30 cords of fire wood, eight feet long, annually while he remains our pastor.

This I find upon Reading Town Records.

On the 25th day of May, 1802, was organized the first Universalist Society in Reading. This is the centennial year and almost the centennial day, and is worthy of a special gathering, congratulatory words, and the recital of whatever of good has been accomplished in Reading and elsewhere in the upbuilding of Christianity.

Universalism has struggled and triumphed. From the little gathering in New Jersey to listen to Rev. John Murray, it has fought its way against criticisms and opposition, to a prominent rank, and now has its academies,

colleges, and theological seminaries, its newspapers, its denominational books, its numerous churches, and its learned clergymen. Prior to the advent of Samuel C. Loveland to Reading, about 1819, I have not been able to learn who the preacher of this faith in Reading was. His arrival was a red letter day in its history. Here he lived and labored for about forty years, and for a large part of that time, was the only clergyman resident in the town.

That Universalism has grown and expanded in the 19th century, shows that it has had in it much of good. The 19th century has been the most remarkable in the world's history for the great advancements made in all branches of learning. It is needless here but to remind you of the great discoveries in the Arts and Sciences, that have changed the whole trend of human affairs.

I believe in the survival of the fittest. The world is growing wiser and better. The average duration of human life is being lengthened by the observance of sanitary laws. Creeds that are essentially wrong, are being set aside, or modified and re-written. By means of dispassionate investigation and discussion, and the higher criticism, the ancient creeds are being modified, and Christians are learning to set aside non-essential, and seek for the essential truths.

The seven years' struggle in America, had resulted in the Independence of the United States; the Revolutionary Army had disbanded, and those patriotic soldiers had been absorbed into the great mass of the people, and had exchanged the sword for the plough share. The old flint lock muskets had been hung up over the mantel as trophies of the patriotic war. These discharged soldiers were poor indeed, in dollars, but rich in indomitable energy, as they turned to the task of subduing the primeval forests, and building homes in the wilderness.

The first settlement in Reading was made in 1772 by Andrew Spear, and it is not known that any one then

resident of Reading was in the Army of the Revolution. But many of the patriot soldiers subsequently settled in Reading, and became thrifty and industrious citizens. Their names are to be found upon one of the tablets in the Public Library, a tardy tribute indeed, to their patriotic virtues.

The early settlers of Reading were religious people and we find that a Congregational church was organized on June 26, 1787, and Rev. Nahum Sargent settled as its first pastor. His services were held in the log church then situated on the hill southerly of the center on a road long since abandoned. He secured one share of land as the first settled minister.

A Baptist church was organized in Reading in 1788.

The Reformed Catholic Society was organized Dec. 12, 1796, and the curious can find an account of its terms of organization, by reference to the first volume of the History of Reading.

Universalists believe that their distinctive tenets are as old as the bible—that it was the faith of the Greek fathers; that it is in the words of Jesus and the Apostles, and that all through the history of the Christian Church, it has had its champions. But in the technical sense of the term, it had no distinct denominational existence prior to the coming to this country, of Rev. John Murray, in 1770. Murray had led a somewhat romantic and checkered career in England, and at one period had been a clergyman of the Methodist denomination, having been converted by the preaching of George Whitfield, and the Wesleys; but subsequently, under the preaching of John Rely, had changed his views, and became a believer in the doctrine of the final salvation of all men. I do not learn that Murray ever preached in Vermont.

Ballou's "Treatise on the Atonement" was an epoch making production.

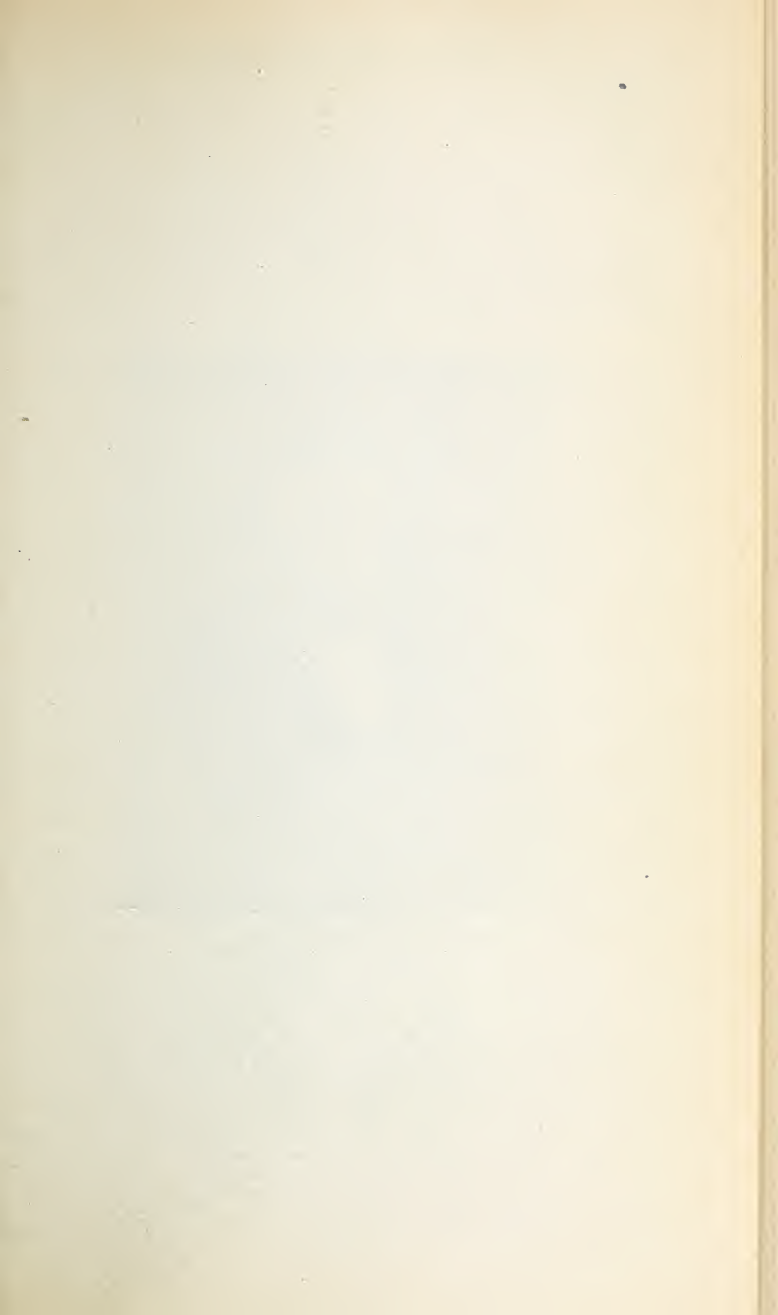
In 1800, the Universalist preachers in this country did not exceed twenty, and all lived in New England; and there were societies or preaching stations in Vermont, Mass., N. H., R. I., and Conn.

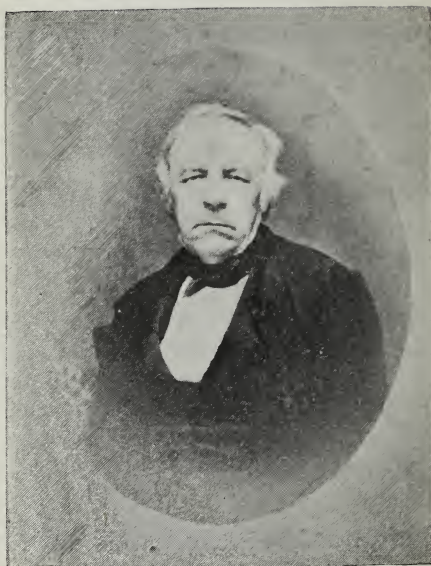
In Oct., 1793, John Murray had become pastor of "The First Universalist Society" in Boston, and it is said, was greeted with a shower of stones when he first began to preach in Boston.

Andrew A. Miner was one of the great lights of Universalism. He was a teacher for one year, in the Academy at Cavendish, Vt., being associated with Mr. John Garvin as Principal in 1834. His ministry was begun in North Chester, Vt., in Feb., 1838.

The New England people up to the arrival of Mr. Murray were largely Congregationalists, with a respectable percentage of Baptists and Presbyterians, and a few Quakers. Those of the Middle and Southern States were largely Presbyterians, and of kindred denominations. The doctrine of Universalism, or Restorationism, was a radically new departure, and met with united opposition of the Orthodox Churches. To stem this tide, and make headway along a new line of thought, and to establish a new interpretation of the Scriptures, required a bold mariner, and such John Murray proved to be. He was a hero in religious life. He had the courage of his honest convictions, and brought to his task great learning, indomitable perseverance, and very much of eloquence. I am not here to give a detailed account of the rise and spread of Universalism in the United States. That could not be accomplished within the time limited for my paper.

The doctrines advocated by John Murray, were caught up by the public press, were discussed at the fire-side, and soon gained many adherents, developed preachers and teachers, and grew apace. The new doctrines were adopted by some of the intelligent settlers in Read-





REV. SAMUEL C. LOVELAND.

ing, and we find that at the meeting house on the hill, south of the center, and north of the log meeting house, the adherents to the doctrine of Universalism assembled and organized a society, May 25, 1802. That faith has had many faithful followers from that time to this, among the citizens of Reading. The records of that early society are not known to me to be in existence, and our information about it is quite meagre.

About the year 1819, Samuel Chapman Loveland arrived in town, and preached his first sermon, according to one tradition, in the "Amsden tavern", now occupied by B. D. Hawkins for his garden seed industry, but according to another tradition, in the Amsden dwelling house, which stood where Merritt Amsden's dwelling house now stands. He was not a college graduate, but a self educated man. He was born at Gilsum, N. H., Aug. 25, 1787.

It was my privilege to meet Mr. Loveland in the 50's at Chester academy, when I was a student there, and at that time, Mr. Loveland was pastor of the Universalist church in Weston, Vt., and came to Chester on foot, as his custom was, to attend the Commencement exercises. He was a large man, of commanding appearance, and robust health. Mr. Loveland was pastor of the church at Reading Center, until about 1840. His residence was for a long time at the Center, where he maintained a school for training young men for professional life.

Samuel Chapman Loveland, was an honest boy and everybody loved him. His early opportunities for education were very limited, including only the common school, and one term at an academy, and in his search for knowledge he was beset with difficulties unknown to the youth of the present day. His zeal and perseverance however triumphed over all obstacles. He had a special aptitude for the study of language, and eagerly embraced every opportunity for gratifying this

taste. Through the preaching of the noted Elhanan Winchester, his parents had accepted the doctrine of Universal Salvation.

Early imbibing these views, he was impressed with the duty of devoting himself to their propagation in the work of the ministry.

To this end he first desired to be able to study the original Scriptures. A neighbor, who had been three years a member of Dartmouth College, had a few Latin and Greek books, among them a part of an old Latin bible, which he had procured, and with a grammar and dictionary plodded through several chapters. He then commenced the Greek, with old Scherelius, and a grammar, and tumbling back and forth in search of roots of words, changes, synecopation, and construction of sentences, he was able generally to read out a whole verse in the space of half a day. Words that he could not trace were carefully noted down for further development to bring to light. This course was pursued with indefatigable industry, employing every moment that could be spared from the labors of the farm, till 1811, when he devoted a year exclusively to study in direct preparation for the ministry.

He received a letter of fellowship from the general Convention at its session in Cavendish, Vt. in 1812, and was ordained by the same body at Westmoreland, N. H., in 1814. About this period he commenced the study of Hebrew with such facilities as he could get, but was able to make but little advance till 1823, when he took hold of it in right earnest. In 1828 he prepared and published a Greek and English Lexicon of the New Testament. This was highly commended, and considering the circumstances in which it was prepared, is truly a remarkable production. He studied also the Chaldee, the Syriac, the Arabic, the Anglo-Saxon, French, Spanish, German, Modern Greek, Danish, besides others to some

extent. He wrote of himself, "I have loved the study of languages on account of their relation to each other, and it seems I have some real specimens of what men have done, and thought, and are, when I know something of their forms of speech."

Mr. Loveland was a man of kindly disposition, greatly interested in his studies, fond of young men, and it is said that in some instances, taught his students the languages, mathematics, and theology, while they followed the plough, and assisted him about the farm work. Being a self taught man, without the benefit of a collegiate or theological school training, he delighted to assist ambitious young men.

He had accumulated a large library, and was especially strong in his knowledge of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew. He had a critical knowledge of the Greek language. His Greek Lexicon was printed at Woodstock, and entitled "A Greek Lexicon, adapted to the New Testament, with English definitions", and this was approved by the General Convention of the Universalists of New England, held at Cavendish, Vt., Sept. 17—18, 1828. Middlebury college conferred on him the honorary degree of A. M., in 1829.

He was a poet of much originality and force. He was the representative of Reading, in the Vt. Legislature in 1824, and before the joint committee, His Excellency, C. P. Van Ness in the chair, made the famous speech in favor of electing the Rev. Robert Bartlett, a Universalist clergyman, then the representative from Hartland, to preach the next election sermon. He won his point and Mr. Bartlett was elected. The General Convention of Universalists was held at Claremont, N. H., Sept. 20—21, 1820, and this included representatives from churches in Mass., N. H., Vt., Philadelphia, New York, Maine, and Conn. Mr Loveland attended. In the year 1821, the Northern Association of Universalists convened at Reading, and were in session Sept. 27—28. The clergymen

present were:—

Russell Streeter of Springfield, Robert Bartlett of Hartland, Aaron Kinsman, Levi Briggs, Jonathan Wallace, Samuel C. Loveland, of Reading, and two other members were received into fellowship, Mark Stiles of Grafton, and Jarvis Davis of Springfield. 24 associates then formed this association, including the territory from Barre, on the north, to Wardsboro on the south, all in Vermont, except the society of Queensburg, N. Y. On Oct. 30, 1821, Mr. Loveland preached a sermon before the same association at Kingsburg, N. Y. Sept. 18—19, 1822, he attended a session of the General Convention of the Universalists of the New England States, at Warner, N. H. In Sept., 1823, he preached before the Northern Association, at Whiting, Vt., and was moderator of the same. This Association was organized in 1804. In 1824 Oct., he preached before the same Northern Association, at Whitehall, N. Y. In Oct., 1825, he attended the meeting of the same Northern Association, at Danville, and again preached a sermon. June 12, 1827, he attended, and was clerk of the N. H. Universalist Association, at Washington, N. H., and preached the sermon.

The Christian Repository was commenced in July, 1820, and edited at Reading, by Mr. Loveland, but printed by David Watson, at Woodstock. It was a bi-monthly publication. Its columns were devoted to doctrine, morality, and religious intelligence, mostly original from the pen of the editor, but to some extent from others. Its primary design was to inculcate the Universalist faith. Among the contributors were Russell Streeter. Its publication was continued for nine years, and all of the time under the editorship of Mr. Loveland, except three years, by Rev. Robert Bartlett, of Hartland, Vt. The columns were largely occupied with sermons, and the discussions of theological themes by Mr. Loveland, and they show him a man of ripe scholarship, and argumentative ability of high order. It was issued in duo-

decimo size, and at the close of the year, bound in book form. Nine volumes thus bound are now in the State library at Montpelier, and I have had the loan of them for examination.

On its pages are found critical illustrations of Greek words of the New Testament, whose meaning have been discussed and investigated, as laying the foundation of the creeds of Christendom, and these display a thorough knowledge of the original Greek, and doubtless were embodied in the Greek Lexicon which Mr. Loveland wrote and published in 1828, a volume of 376 pages.

Mr. Loveland obtained eminence as a controversialist. He was necessarily such, because he was contending for a new faith; and so he wielded the pen with mighty force to meet the resolute arguments of the orthodox clergy. Paul and Barnabas, and the other apostles had similar battles to fight, against the established institutions, and the standard lines of belief and thought in Palestine, and throughout the Roman Empire in the first century. In 1814, Mr. Loveland published a book of 32 pages, entitled, "The Wrestler, who found an Evil Beast, contended with him and threw him", being an answer to Mr. Peck's poem, "Descant on the Universal plan." This was printed at Weathersfield, by Eddy and Patrick.

In John Peck's poem, to which Mr. Loveland replied, occurs the following:—

" O charming news ! to live in sin,
" And die to reign with Paul ;
" 'Tis so, indeed. for Jesus bled,
" To save the devil and all."

In 1815, Mr. Loveland had issued from the same press of Patrick & Eddy, another work of 27 pages, in prose and poetry composition, entitled, "A Plain Answer" to a sermon delivered at Rutland West Parish, in the year 1805, entitled, "Universal Salvation,—A Very Ancient Doctrine," by Rev. Lemuel Haynes, a colored

clergyman of the Congregational church, of great force and eminence. I have in my library the book of Mr. Haynes.

In Dr. Eddy's Bibliography are the following notices of works by Mr. Loveland—

1814. "The Sin and Blasphemy Against the Holy Ghost, Carefully Examined and Faithfully Illustrated in Two Discourses." (Windsor, Vt., 32 pages.)

1817. "An Elegy on Mrs. Rhoda Caryl, wife of Mr. John Caryl, of Stockbridge, who Departed this Life April 23, 1817. (No imprint, 8 pages.)

1819. "Six Lectures on Important Subjects." (Delivered in Bethel, in the year 1819, 162 pages.)

1823. "A Sermon on Christ's Sheep." (Woodstock, Vt., 12 pages.)

1824 (?) "On the Words Forever ; Forever and Ever, Everlasting, and Eternal." (Woodstock, Vt., no date, 12 pages.)

1824. (?) "Duration of Future Punishment by Rev. Timothy Dwight, D. D., Considered." (Woodstock, Vt., no date, 12 pages.)

Also a pamphlet entitled, "A Discussion with J. Larrabee."

Mr. Loveland's library was given to St. Lawrence University, of Canton, N. Y. It was originally kept by itself, but subsequently the books were scattered, and the librarian of that institution is unable to tell the number of volumes that it contained or the date of its reception.

His funeral sermon was preached by Rev. J. N. Parker, of Troy, N. Y.

The "Trumpet and Freeman," of Boston, in an issue in April or May, 1858, quotes some obituary items from the "Repository."

In this connection it may be of interest to state that Mr. Loveland was at one time a member of the Eastern Star Lodge of F. & A. M., that was organized at Read-

ing, in 1815, but in the excitement following the ALLEGED abduction and murder of Wm. Morgan, Mr. Loveland seceded from the order, and was one of a company who went about the country claiming to expose the secrets and denouncing the tenets of that order.

"The American Whig" was established at Woodstock, about 1830 by Hemenway and Sherwin. "The Whig" was started under the direction of the Anti-Masonic County Committee, Joseph Hemenway being the nominal editor although much of the work was done by others, among whom was Rev. S. C. Loveland. The "Whig" came to the end of its existence about 1836. Elder Loveland's journalistic ventures brought him into notoriety and he received some of the kicks of political campaigning; and in B. F. Kendall's "Doleful Tragedy of the raising of Joe Burnham, or The Cat let out of The Bag," in 5 acts, illustrated with engravings by Timothy Tickle, Esq, a pamphlet printed at Woodstock in 1832, Mr. Loveland came into notice under the sobriquet of "Elder Lovely" and Mr. Hawkins of Reading, as "Hawkeye." The story of Joe Burnham is a very interesting narration growing out of the anti-Masonic excitement, but I have not space or time to recite it.

The "Christian Repository" was published at Woodstock until 1829, when it was sold to Wm. Bell, and changed to a weekly newspaper, and called "The Universalist Watchman, and Christian Repository", and its publication continued for about seven years, when its office of publication was changed to Montpelier. Under Mr. Loveland's editorship and management, it obtained quite a large circulation.

From an examination of the nine bound volumes at Montpelier, I find it contained about 20 sermons preached by Mr. Loveland at Reading, and a large amount of comments upon religious themes, together with numerous accounts of Ecclesiastical conventions. Mr. Loveland uniformly traveled on foot, and in that way, travel-

ed over a large part of New England, in attending conventions, and in keeping his appointments to preach the gospel as he understood it. These 20 sermons are models of concise statements, clear cut arguments, and apt illustrations, and reveal an intimate knowledge of the Sacred Scriptures, and in all these points, will compare favorably with the modern sermon. These sermons were argumentative as the times demanded. Mr. Loveland represented opinions that must be maintained by strong arguments, and herein we find them. He wielded sledge hammer blows against the old creeds. The perusal of these sermons has been of interest to me, and though I could not in many cases, give consent to the conclusions reached by the preacher, I admired the learning, logic, and earnestness of the man. These early settlers, who had blazed their way through the forests, and had leveled, and burned the great trees, had toiled and struggled to clear up farms, and build log houses and churches, demanded strong arguments and resolute doctrinal sermons. Modern sermons may be more classical and polished, may smack more of the schools, but they are no more argumentative and convincing than these twenty sermons of Samuel C. Loveland.

Since the departure from town of Mr Loveland, there has been no settled pastor at the Center. The old brick meeting house was standing in 1860, when I arrived at Reading, but since that time was used only for the holding of town meetings, until some time in the 60's the steeple dropped through the roof, and the building became untenable, and after remaining unoccupied for some time, was torn down by the neighbors with the design of rebuilding it near Bailey's Mills; but the project ended after the foundation for the new structure had been builded. The village at Reading Center gradually went to decay with the old church, the inhabitants died or moved away, and with these changes, the interest in religious discussions of the inhabitants that remained,

ceased ; and for 40 years it has been a rare and notable event, to have a religious service in Reading, north of Felchville and South Reading, except upon some funeral occasion.

While residing in Reading, Mr. Loveland won the confidence of the people, and was elected representative in 1824, 1825, 1827, 1828. He served as town clerk in 1833, 1834, and 1835. In 1831, 1832, and 1833, he was a member of the Council, an august body, composed of 12 members, elected on a general ticket by the freemen of the State. The Council was superseded in 1836 by the Senate, of 30 members. In 1832 and 1833, he was assistant judge of Windsor County Court.

Elder Loveland was a man six feet tall, of large frame, and quite portly. His manner was suasive and pleasing. He was rather moderate in his speech, but had a classical diction ; and his published sermons are models of thoughtful argument, and show a deep study of the subject in hand. For many years he maintained a theological and classical school at the Center. He was a very learned mathematician, and spent many hours in working out intricate problems. In his study was kept a large blackboard on which he worked out his theories, and made elaborate calculations. Quite a large number of young men resorted to this school, and afterwards became eminent in the different professions. Its influence was long felt in the upbuilding of Universalism. Rev. Wm. Balch was a student here in about 1829, and he afterwards held pastorates over Universalist churches in Winchester, N. H., New York City, Providence, R. I., Dubuque, Iowa, and Ludlow, Vt., and has often preached in this church, here in Felchville.

I have found 21 of his publications.

He traveled extensively in the Orient, and lectured upon his travels with great popularity.

Rev. Dolphus Skinner was another clergyman who was trained by Elder Loveland, here in Reading at his

school, and he held important pastorates over Universalist churches, and was very influential in the spread of that doctrine.

Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Sawyer was a native of Reading, born in 1804, almost at the same time with Universalism in Reading. He was reared under the preaching and theological instruction of Mr. Loveland, and became one of the most eminent preachers and teachers of the faith. He was a voluminous writer in defense of the faith. Ten of his books upon this subject have been published, and a large number of magazine articles, and he was for many years a professor in Tuft's College, and was one of its founders. I have found nine of his publications in defense of Universalism, besides many tracts.

Among other distinguished men who were students of Elder Loveland, at the Center, were :—

Jonathan Forrester, who became a Universalist clergyman, and afterwards preached at South Reading, and then removed to Aurora, Ill.;

Orestes A. Brownson, who was born in Stockbridge, Vt., Sept. 16, 1803. In 1825 he became a Universalist minister, preaching in Vermont and elsewhere, writing for and editing various periodicals of that denomination. In 1832 he joined the Unitarians, and in 1836, organized an Independent Society, in Boston, to which he preached until about 1843, when he became a Roman Catholic, entering that communion in 1844, where he ever after continued ;

John L. Buck, who became an eminent lawyer at Lockport, N. Y.;

Mason Hulett, a lawyer at Towanda, Pa., Israel Boynton, Zenas Wood, and Solomon Kimball, who became a physician ;

Elhanan W. Loveland, son of Samuel, Asa Priest, a clergyman, Judson Fisher of Walpole, N. H., and Rev. George Severance, who afterwards located in Maine, and

edited "The Gospel Banner";

Rev. Otis Skinner, a Universalist clergyman, and author of several books that were well received by this denomination, Hon. Wm. Watkins, a lawyer at Towanda, Pa., and one Lemuel Willes, a clergyman who preached at Troy, N. Y., and other places.

With this array of facts, can it be said that Reading has not had an important part in shaping the religious beliefs of the 19th century? Mr. Loveland removed to Weston, Vt., about 1840, where he resided about 12 years. He then was located in North Clarendon, Vt., from 1852 to 1856, and then removed to South Hartford, N. Y., in 1856 where he was pastor of a Universalist church; and he died at the latter place, April 9, 1858, aged 71 years, and was buried in the Townsend Cemetery at that place. His earliest pulpit efforts were at Richmond, Vt.

He was settled over the Universalist church in Barnard, Vt., for three years prior to 1819.

The brick church which stood in Felchville, just east of B. M. Newton's hall, on the South Reading road, was built about 1835, and it was burned in 1860. It was occupied on alternate Sabbaths by the Universalists and Baptists. Rev. Warren Skinner of Cavendish, preached for a long time for the Universalists, and Rev. William H. Guilford, who resided at Lower Perkinsville, preached for the Baptists, some over two years. Mr. Guilford was a man of remarkable independence, bold in his oratory, and thoroughly posted on all educational and religious subjects. Rev. Warren Skinner was known to some now living in Reading, as one of the old style gentlemen, vigorous of thought, and resolute as to his religious beliefs.

In the winter of 1837—8, there had been held the second of a series of protracted meetings in this brick church, and a deep religious interest had been aroused which stirred the whole town. Rev. Mr. Skinner was

invited to come to Felchville and meet Mr. Guilford, in a religious discussion. The invitation was accepted. It was arranged that each disputant should speak 30 minutes alternately, and prove his creed or belief from the Bible, by the principles of theology, and from church history, together with any other pertinent arguments.

The Reverend disputants got together about the middle of June, 1841, and their auditors filled the brick church to the doors. Three Judges were chosen, of whom Capt. Aaron Goddard was chairman, not to make decision as to the merits of the argument or the subject, but to rule on points of order, time, or other incidental matters. The other members of the committee, were Dea. William L. Hawkins and Benj. Sawyer, Esq. I have a report of this discussion from Honestus Stearns, Esq., as he remembered it. Rev. Mr. Guilford opened the discussion by stating in substance.—

“In this discussion, I propose to prove that all who do not comply with the terms of salvation in the present state of existence, will suffer punishment unlimited in duration in the future state of existence,” and in the 30 minutes allowed him, he endeavored to establish his proposition.

Then Mr. Skinner arose and stated his proposition as follows, viz :—

“I propose to prove that there is a superintending, governing power that made and governs the universe with a supreme intelligence, a being whom we call God, a God of love and one whose tender mercies are over all His works ; and that His son Christ Jesus, died according to the Jewish rites as a propitiation for the sins of the whole world ; that in the dispensation of the fullness of time, God will gather together in Christ, all who are in Heaven and on earth, and all will be ultimately in the Kingdom of Glory.” Mr. Skinner said,—“Admitting the divine authenticity of the sacred volume, the proposition seems to prove itself. But as my worthy

brother Guilford says that the necessity of written laws in those misty, ancient days, proves that the doctrine of total human depravity was recognized from the earliest civilization. Whatever weight may be attached to this argument, there is no shadow of doubt but that man in his moral make-up, has a breath of Divine goodness and intelligence, that will develop in its final results in this world, as well as in the next, a condition resulting in everlasting peace."

The disputation showed that each disputant had been a deep student of ecclesiastical history, both ancient and modern, and of the civil and the common law. To repeat all the arguments on both sides, would fill a volume of 1000 pages. This discussion lasted for three days, and after a couple of weeks, it was holden for two days more. It is to be regretted that the whole could not have been reported, and printed in book form, for it is doubtful if two such well equipped, theological combatants ever got together before or since. It is a remarkable sequel, that in two or three years after this discussion, Mr. Guilford renounced the Baptist doctrine, and preached Universalism the rest of his life.

But this may be offset by the change of faith of Rev. C. H. Wells, from Universalism to the Protestant Episcopal faith.

Rev. Dr. Forester subsequently preached the doctrines of Universalism in the meeting house at South Reading. He removed to Aurora, Ill., and was a clergyman of much eminence. I have not been able to secure accurate data as to the length of his residence in Reading.

The Union Religious Association was formed at Felchville, May 5, 1862, for the purpose of building a meeting-house at Felchville. The incorporators were Universalists and Methodists. Luther Kendall, Joseph A. Davis, and Alzamon D. Amsden were the building committee. It was provided that the building should be occupied on

alternate Sabbaths, by these two denominations. The corporators were:—

Luther Kendall, Charles L. Thayer, Joseph A. Davis, Wm. Felch, Ferdinand Hawkins, Nathaniel Parsons, Geo. White, John Adams, Hosea Benjamin, Harris Kendall, E. W. Watkins, Otis Baldwin, Willard S. Gates, Daniel P. Sawyer, Rufus Young, Alonzo Gilbert, Gilbert A. Davis, Lucia E. Gates, Philetta Putnam, Fred K. Gates, Zenas Sanders, Nellie A. Fletcher, Kate White, R. W. Hoadley.

The building was erected at an expense of \$1595.50, and was completed in 1862. This organization has been kept up to the present time.

"The First Universalist Society of Felchville, and Vicinity" was organized at Felchville, Feb. 27, 1867, and a constitution adopted. Its object was declared to be "the promotion of truth and morality among its members and also in the world at large, and as the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is calculated above all truth to inspire the heart's emotions of benevolence and virtue, this society shall deem it one of its main objects to support the preaching of the Gospel according to its ability, and to aid in any other particular way in spreading a knowledge of it among men." The society adopted as its profession of religious faith, "the profession of belief accepted at the General Convention of Universalists at Winchester, N. H., A. D. 1803," and the same is set forth at length on the record. Appended to this are the names of

Luther Kendall, Chas. C. Thornton, Hosea Benjamin, R. W. Hoadley, H. Stearns, Caleb B. Chase, C. A. Morse, H. J. Hewlett, Otis Baldwin, Addison Slayton, John Adams, Andrew R. Adams, H. H. Hammond, F. G. Rice, D. P. Davis, John McCullough, William A. Wait, P. B. Wolcott, Reuben Petty, O. S. Holden, Geo. M. Clark, Alonzo Rogers, Clark Wardner, Mrs. P. Putnam, Mrs. John Adams, Mrs. Carlos Wardner, Mrs. H.

J. Thornton, Mrs. Luther Kendall, Mrs. Sarah Hoadley, Mrs. Elvira M. Baldwin, Mrs. M. W. Benjamin. Mrs. M. E. Farwell, Mrs. T. E. Conant, Mrs. Henry J. Hewlett, Mrs. Orpheus Coburn, Mrs. Harriet S. Gates, Miss Callista White, Miss Melvina J. Hoadley, Miss Emma J. Hoadley, Miss Jennie A. Pratt, Mrs. C. A. Morse, Mrs. A. S. Stafford, Mrs. Hank White, Mrs. A. Rogers, Mrs. L. A. Clarke, Miss F. M. Hewlett, Mrs. O. S. Holden. Mrs. C. H. Shedd.

Cordelia Hewlett Shedd devised to this Society, \$500.

The pastors have been, Rev. Joseph Barber, 1868—71; Rev. E. S. Foster, 1872; Rev. Eli Ballou, D. D., 1873; Rev. L. Green, Rev. H. Closson, 1888, 1889; Rev. J. B. Reardon, 1890.

“The First Universalist Church of Felchville” was organized Sept. 13, 1891, and the “Winchester Confession of Faith” was adopted. The pastors have been, Mr. Leslie Moore, summer of 1891; Mr. Chas. H. Wells, summers of 1892 to 1895, inclusive; Rev. Edson Reifsnider, summer of 1896; Rev. Bertram Boivin, summer of 1897; Rev. J. F. Simmons, summer of 1898; Rev. F. Waldron Evans, summer of 1898; Rev. Elizabeth Holt Goldthwaite, from Nov. 1, 1898, to May 1, 1901; Miss Hannah Gertrude Roscoe, from May 1, 1901, to the date of this publication. She was ordained at Felchville, June 12, 1902.

CHAPTER IX.

Selectmen of Reading from Organization of the Town.

Compiled by Carlos Hawkins, Town Clerk.

- 1783 Asa Wilkins, David Hapgood.
1784 Thomas Hapgood, Nathaniel Pratt, John Stanley.
1785 John Weld, Asa Wilkins, David Hapgood.
1786 John Weld, Aaron Kimball, Solomon Keyes.
1787 Samuel Sherwin, Thomas Fay, Nedobiah Cady.
1788 Nathaniel Swain, Asa Hapgood, Elisha Bigelow.
1789 Baziel Grandy, Jonathan Chandler, Henry Carlton.
1790 Samuel Sherwin, Abijah Stone, Elias Jones.
1791 Elkanah Day, Asa Wilkins, Aaron Kendall.
1792 Elkanah Day, Aaron Kimball, Abiah Rice, Isaak Kimball, Hezekiah Leavens.
1793 Elias Jones, Alpheus Morse, Samuel Sherwin.
1794 Solomon Keyes, David Hapgood, Moses Chaplin.
1795 Thomas Townsend, David Nichols, Nedobiah Cady.
1796 Alpheus Morse, Noah Bigelow, John Sawyer.
1797 Nathaniel Pratt, Ebenezer Robinson, Thomas Fay.
1798 Henry Carlton, Abel Amsden, Benjamin Sawyer.
1799 Henry Carlton, Asa Carlton, Jonathan Shed.
1800 Elisha Bigelow, Isaac Bowen, William L. Hawkins.
1801 Zenas Stone, John Emerson, Levi Bailey.
1802 Frederick Wardner, Jonathan Going, Samuel Buck.
1803 Elias Jones, William Howard, Thomas Brown, Jr.
1894 Elias Jones, Jonathan Shed, Samuel Persons.
1805 Elias Jones, Jonathan Shed, Samuel Persons.
1806 Jonathan Shed, John Willey, Aaron Goddard.

- 1807 Elias Jones, Ebenezer Robinson, Benoni Buck.
1808 William L. Hawkins, Bailey Merrill, Nathaniel Swain.
1809 William L. Hawkins, Daniel Stearns, Jonathan Shed.
1810 William L. Hawkins, Jonathan Shed, Daniel Stearns.
1811 William L. Hawkins, Jonathan Shed, Daniel Stearns.
1812 Jonathan Shed, Daniel Stearns, Benoni Buck.
1813 William L. Hawkins, Daniel Stearns, Ebenezer Robinson.
1814 Jonathan Shed, Aaron Goddard, Paul Stearns.
1815 Jonathan Shed, Trumbull Ackley, Edmund Page.
1816 William L. Hawkins, Daniel Stearns, Ebenezer Robinson.
1817 Sewall Fullam, Trumbull Ackley, Simeon Buck.
1818 John S. Hawkins, Trumbull Ackley, Samuel Persons.
1819 John S. Hawkins, Jonathan Shed, Rufus Forbush.
1820 John S. Hawkins, Jonathan Shed, Trumbull Ackley.
1821 John S. Hawkins, Jonathan Shed, Trumbull Ackley.
1822 John S. Hawkins, Aaron Goddard, Trumbull Ackley.
1823 Abel Gilson, Jr., Aaron Goddard, Calvin Wardner.
1824 Abel Gilson, Jr., Aaron Goddard, Calvin Wardner.
1825 Abel Gilson, Jr., Aaron Goddard, Calvin Wardner.
1826 Abel Gilson, Jr., William Townsend, Rufus Forbush.
1827 Abel Gilson, Jr., William Townsend, Rufus Forbush.
1828 Abel Gilson, Jr., Trumbull Ackley, Simeon Buck.
1829 Abel Gilson, Jr., Trumbull Ackley, Simeon Buck.
1830 Abel Gilson, Jr., Trumbull Ackley, Simeon Buck.
1831 Abel Gilson, Jr., Charles Buck, Simeon Buck.

- 1832 Abel Gilson, Jr., Charles Buck, William Felch.
1833 William Felch, Charles Buck, Shubal L. Shedd.
1834 Shubal L. Shedd, Charles Buck, Lemuel Washburn.
1835 Charles Buck, Lemuel B. Washburn, John Watkins.
1836 Charles Buck, John Watkins, Lemuel B. Washburn.
1837 B. Hapgood, Benoni Buck, Shubal L. Shedd.
1838 B. Hapgood, Benoni Buck, Shubal L. Shedd.
1839 B. Hapgood, Benoni Buck, Rufus Forbush.
1840 Bridgman Hapgood, Charles Buck, Rufus Forbush.
1841 B. Hapgood, Charles Buck, Rufus Forbush.
1842 B. Hapgood, Charles Buck, Rufus Forbush.
1843 Charles Buck, Rufus Forbush, Luther Carlton.
1844 Luther Carlton, Solomon Keyes, Rufus Stearns.
1845 Luther Carlton, Solomon Keyes, Galo B. Ralph.
1846 B. Hapgood, Benj. Sawyer, Marvin Robinson.
1847 William L. Hawkins, Walton Brown, Luther Carlton.
1848 Walton Brown, Luther Carlton, Solomon Keyes.
1849 Walton Brown, Solomon Keyes, Marvin Robinson.
1850 Solomon Keyes, Walton Brown, Marvin Robinson.
1851 Solomon Keyes, Marvin Robinson, Rufus Forbush.
1852 Solomon Keyes, Marvin Robinson, Rufus Forbush.
1853 William Felch, Marvin Robinson, Rufus Forbush.
1854 Hiram Goddard, Benj. Sawyer, Nelson Whitmore.
1855 Hiram Goddard, Nelson Whitmore, Shubal L. Shedd.
1856 Hiram Goddard, Walton Brown, Shubal L. Shedd.
1857 Hiram Goddard, Solomon Keyes, Thomas S. Gordon.
1858 Washington Keyes, Nelson Whitmore, J. Q. Hawkins.
1859 J. Q. Hawkins, Washington Keyes, Nelson Whitmore.

- 1860 J. Q. Hawkins, Washington Keyes, Nelson Whitmore.
- 1861 Luther Kendall, Hiram Goddard, Edmund S. Hammond.
- 1862 Luther Kendall, Hiram Goddard, Edmund S. Hammond.
- 1863 Edmund S. Hammond, Prosper Merrill, Willard H. Dow.
- 1864 Edmund S. Hammond, Prosper Merrill, Charles C. Buck.
- 1865 Charles C. Buck, Rufus Young, Clark Wardner.
- 1866 Marvin Robinson, Aaron W. Goddard, William W. Keyes.
- 1867 Aaron W. Goddard, Clark Wardner, Parker Kinsman.
- 1868 Charles Buck, Charles S. Whitmore, Andrew R. Adams.
- 1869 Charles S. Whitmore, Wm. P. Chamberlain, Silas W. Pike.
- 1870 William Felch, Albert Eastman, Silas W. Pike.
- 1871 Albert Eastman, Elisha W. Watkins, Henry S. Austin.
- 1872 Elisha W. Watkins, William C. Bement, George F. Tuttle.
- 1873 Wm. C. Bement, E. W. Watkins, George F. Tuttle.
- 1874 Wm. C. Bement, E. W. Watkins, George F. Tuttle.
- 1875 Norman W. Wood, Wm. Felch, D. C. Sherwin.
- 1876 William Felch, Duane C. Sherwin, Justin S. Sherwin.
- 1877 Paul W. Stearns, Alfred Watkins, David E. Burnham.
- 1878 Alfred Watkins, David E. Burnham, Otis Baldwin.
- 1879 Alfred Watkins, David E. Burnham, Otis Baldwin.

- 1880 Aaron W. Goddard, Joel R. Crandall, Alamander Wilkins.
- 1881 Aaron W. Goddard, Alamander Wilkins, Joel R. Crandall.
- 1882 Aaron W. Goddard, Joel R. Crandall, Forrest G. Persons.
- 1883 Orin Walker, David E. Burnham, O. S. Holden.
- 1884 David E. Burnham, O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt.
- 1885 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1886 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1887 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1888 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1889 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1890 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1891 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1892 O. S. Holden, Alonzo Hoyt, Henry N. Bryant.
- 1893 D. E. Washburn, Willard Humphrey, M. L. Bryant.
- 1894 D. E. Washburn, Willard Humphrey, M. L. Bryant.
- 1895 D. E. Washburn, Willard Humphrey, M. L. Bryant.
- 1896 B. M. Newton, N. H. W. Jenne, E. W. Wilkins.
- 1897 B. M. Newton, E. W. Wilkins, N. H. W. Jenne.
- 1898 B. M. Newton, E. W. Wilkins, N. H. W. Jenne.
- 1899 B. M. Newton, E. W. Wilkins, N. H. W. Jenne.
- 1900 B. M. Newton, M. G. Amsden, Wm. H. Bidgood.
- 1901 M. G. Amsden, Wm. H. Bidgood, George D. Burnham.
- 1902 M. G. Amsden, George D. Burnham, E. W. Wilkins.

Officers of Reading, Vermont, since 1872. Compiled by Carlos Hawkins, Town Clerk. Continued from Vol. 1, page 95, in the order hereafter given:—1st, Town Clerk; 2nd, Constable; 3rd, Representative.

1873 W. W. Keyes, Ferdinand Hawkins, Gilbert A.

Davis.

- 1874 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, Gilbert A. Davis.
 1875 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, G. A. Davis.
 1876 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, George H. Parker.
 1877 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, Geo. H. Parker.
 1878 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore. None.
 1879 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, None.
 1880 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, Eleazer Dexter.
 1881 W. W. Keyes, C. S. Whitmore, Eleazer Dexter.
 1882 W. W. Keyes, Ferdinand Hawkins, John McCulloch.
 1883 W. W. Keyes, Ferdinand Hawkins, John McCulloch.
 1884 W. W. Keyes, Ferdinand Hawkins, Azro White.
 1885 W. W. Keyes, Ferdinand Hawkins, Azro White.
 1886 W. W. Keyes, Clarence N. Hook, O. S. Holden.
 1887 W. W. Keyes, Clarence N. Hook, O. S. Holden.
 1888 W. W. Keyes, Clarence N. Hook, W. W. Keyes.
 1889 W. W. Keyes, Lorenzo G. Coolidge, W. W. Keyes.
 Carlos Hawkins was appointed Town Clerk by the
 Selectmen of Reading, Vermont, August 12,
 1889, W. W. Keyes resigned.
 1890 Carlos Hawkins, Lorenzo G. Coolidge, O. S.
 Holden.
 1891 Carlos Hawkins, Lorenzo G. Coolidge, O. S.
 Holden.
 1892 Carlos Hawkins, Lorenzo G. Coolidge, Henry
 N. Bryant.
 1893 Carlos Hawkins, S. M. Sherwin, Henry N. Bryant.
 1894 Carlos Hawkins, Lorenzo G. Coolidge, Clarence
 N. Hook.
 1895 Carlos Hawkins, Lorenzo G. Coolidge, Clarence
 N. Hook.
 1896 Carlos Hawkins, E. R. Buck, Clarence N. Hook.
 1897 " E. R. Buck, Clarence N. Hook.
 1898 " E. R. Buck, E. R. Buck.

- 1899 Carlos Hawkins, E. R. Buck, E. R. Buck.
1900 Carlos Hawkins, Frank L. Hoisington, E. R.
Buck.
1901 Carlos Hawkins, Frank L. Hoisington, E. R.
Buck.
1902 Carlos Hawkins, Daniel M. Hufnail, Burton M.
Newton.

CHAPTER X.

Old Home Day in Reading, August 14, 1902.

The second annual celebration of Old Home Day was observed in Reading, Aug. 14, by appropriate exercises. While the number in attendance was smaller than last year, the general opinion seemed to be that it was a more enjoyable time for home folks and home coming folks, than in 1901. The day's program opened by a concert by the Windsor Military band in front of the Valley House. At about eleven, when people had begun to gather, the band led the way to the front of the "Gilbert A. Davis Library Building," where a tablet had been placed on the inner wall, bearing the names of the following University and College graduates, who were either born or had spent a part of their lives in this town :—

Adams, Charles C., A. B., Middlebury, 1843.

Bailey, Chas. F., LL.B., Univ. Iowa, 1881

Clark, Frank H., LL.B., Univ. Mich., 1884.

Clark, Isaiah R., A. B., Dartmouth, 1883.

Crandall, Geo. C., A. B., Tufts, 1889, LL.B., Boston Univ.

Cole, Fred H., S. T. B., Tufts Divinity, 1902.

Curley, Thomas, A. B., Tufts, 1874.

Davis, Fred C., S. B., N. H. Col. of Ag. and Mech. Arts, 1884.

Davis, Gilbert Franklin, S. B., Harvard Univ., 1901.

- Davis, Mary (Carleton), B. L., Smith, 1894.
 Day, Elkanah. A. B., Dartmouth, 1786, (First Resident Physician).
 Elliott, Moses, A. B., Dartmouth, 1808, (Pastor Congregational Church).
 Fay, Lillian, A. B., Smith, A. B., 1887, A. M., 1894.
 Goddard, Merritt E., A. B., Dartmouth, 1857.
 Griswold, Clifford B., B. S., Univ. Vermont, 1901.
 Guild, Frank H., A. B., Dartmouth, 1900.
 Hall, James A., Norwich, 1839.
 Herrick, Horace, A. B., Dartmouth, 1834.
 Johnson, A. T., A. B., Harvard, 1888.
 Keyes, Wade, Ph. B., Tufts, 1889.
 Kinson, W. R., M. D., Univ. Vermont, 1900.
 Megrath, Wm., S. B., N. H. Col. Ag. and Mech. Arts, 1880.
 Morgan, Ernest I., Ph. B., Univ. Vermont, 1891, LL.B., Boston Univ., 1893.
 Morgan, F. C., M. D., Univ. Vermont, 1887.
 Robinson, Frank M., A. B., Dartmouth, 1855.
 Robinson, Geo. O., A. B., Univ. Vermont, 1857.
 Robinson, Calvin L., A. B., Univ. Vermont, 1869.
 Robinson, Stillman Williams, C. E., Univ. Mich., 1863.
 Sargent, Nahum B., A. B., Dartmouth, 1784. (First Settled Minister).
 Sawyer, Thomas J., A. B., Middlebury, 1829.
 Shattuck, Fred W., A. B., Dartmouth, 1879.
 Small, Joseph S., A. B., Dartmouth, 1876.
 Stearns, Oscar H., A. B., Middlebury, 1866.
 Stone, Benj. F., A. B., Middlebury, 1828.
 Wheeler, Daniel Smith, A. B., Dartmouth, 1843.
 White, Homer, A. B., Union, 1861, LL.B., Univ. N. Y. 1862.

Revolutionary Soldier of Reading,

Rufus Forbush.

Soldier War 1861—5,

Wallace W. Wilkins, Co., I, 2nd

Vt. Vols.

This tablet was the gift of Hon. Gilbert A. Davis, the donor of the library building. After a prayer by Rev. Gertrude Roscoe, pastor of the Universalist Church, Mr. Davis was introduced and made the presentation speech :—

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—In the History of Reading, now in press, will be found a brief sketch of the career of each of these University and College graduates. This tablet is a lasting monument to the memory of these natives and residents of Reading, who have had the courage and ability to pursue a course of study and graduate from some University or College.

By other tablets placed on the walls of this library, we have honored the memory of the soldiers of Reading, of the Revolution, war of 1812, war of the Rebellion and the Spanish war. It is intended that from this library shall go forth all those beneficent influences that will arouse the ambition of all the boys and girls of Reading to attain a high standard of scholarship and virtue.

It is an honor to any man or woman to receive a college or university degree,—the result of honest and intelligent toil and perseverance. Such a course of study develops the man, makes his life purer, happier,—makes him a better citizen, neighbor, friend. It is needless to amplify this subject. The world has recognized the value and necessity of education. Whosoever shall read this list of honored names, will recall the pathway that leads to this result, shown by the abbreviations attached to each name, and will know that he who wins a degree, must have been an honest, self-denying, laborious student.

While many have read cheap, trashy literature, others have pursued the solid, substantial, and choice literature; while many have read with no definite aim or object to attain, others have read and studied with a well defined plan, and in some regular course of study.

I desire to emphasize today certain principles that I

have long cherished. My plans and purposes in erecting this Library Building have not all been made public. These classes of tablets, representing certain phases of military and civil life, are a part of my original plan, and only a part. As time rolls on, I hope to develop and carry out certain other plans that I have formed but not made public.

Permit me to state my ideas about study and research by the following quotations from Charles Dickens :—

“My own invention or imagination, such as it is, I can most truthfully assure you, would never have served me as it has, but for the habit of commonplace, humble, patient, daily, toiling, drudging attention; The one serviceable, safe, certain, remunerative, attainable quality in every study, and in every pursuit, is the quality of attention. Genius, vivacity, quickness of penetration, brilliancy in association of ideas, will not always be commended, but attention, after due term of submissive service, always will. Like certain plants which the poorest peasants may grow in the poorest soil, it may be cultivated by any one, and it is certain in its own good season, to bring forth flower and fruit.”

As I have frequently said, this library is to be valuable just so far as the people of this community will make it so. It is your library, not mine, any further than I am one member of this community. As you believe that the influences going out from this building and its contents are beneficial, it commends itself to your care and attention for its development and enrichment.

The grand question for each to propound, and each to answer is, “What can I do to promote the usefulness and expansion of the Reading Public Library?”

While I give all honor to the college and university graduates, I wish here and now to emphasize my ideas of what has been and what can be accomplished without such a course of study.

Fred Douglass, the emancipated slave and great orator said that the only University he ever attended was the University of Adversity.

Booker T. Washington has told of and interested all the world in his efforts to elevate his race by education along the lines of practical industry. President A. A. Miner of Tuft's College never had a college education.

Technical schools are rapidly increasing, and about every vocation is now taught in its special school, and the dreary drudgery of apprenticeship is obsolete. My theory is, that every boy and girl of the requisite physical and mental caliber ought to have a collegiate course, if his financial situation will permit. Otherwise, he ought to have its equivalent as near as possible in the high school, academy, or in home culture. In this connection, I commend to your careful reading an article in the June number of the Century Magazine, entitled, "Working One's Way Through College". It is a practical and valuable article, showing the methods by which an ambitious, courageous and resolute man can secure a collegiate education, when thrown upon his own resources, with the aid of a free scholarship, and a willingness to work at some honorable employment. For the lazy fellow, it has no instruction.

In the college or university, the student will find that after all he must do the work, the studying, the thinking. That is equally true now, as it always has been. When the young man or young woman, from force of circumstances cannot go to college, he or she must gain the knowledge, mental culture and training on the farm, at the fireside, aided by books from the public library and the friendly aid of educated people to be found in every community.

Under the school laws of Vermont, every child is entitled to a high school education either in his own town, or in some near by town with his tuition paid from the public funds. This is his birthright. Parents

and scholars should not overlook this great provision. There is then, no valid excuse for any Vermont boy or girl, with requisite health, coming to majority without a high school education

With the right of free transportation, distance from the school-house is no excuse. I want every father and mother to understand this. Transport the children to the school, or bring them to some boarding place near the school-house, and pay their board at the public expense. This is a step in advance. Ignorance, then, in Vermont, is almost a crime. Certainly, it is inexcusable.

Some of the greatest men of this Republic have had little more than a common school education. You will readily recall such illustrious names as Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, Justin S. Morrill, William McKinley and a host of others. Let me come nearer home. Only one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Vermont, is a college graduate. Of the present delegation from Vermont in Congress, Senator Dillingham and Representative Haskins are in the same list, together with Judge Hoyt H. Wheeler, of the U. S. District Court, and the U. S. District Attorney.

And in the same list, let me place Dwight L. Moody, the famous Evangelist; Andrew Carnegie, the steel magnate, and the founder of so many public libraries; Thos. A. Edison, the great scientist and discoverer in electrical appliances, and J. Pierpoint Morgan, who has just given \$1,000,000 to Harvard University. Don't misunderstand me, the college graduates have equally honorable records.

The end and aim of all study, whether at the university or at the fireside, is the strengthening and developing of the intellectual powers.

At the university the boy stands on his own merits. He is tested by frequent examinations, and he is disgraced, fired or rusticated, sent back home, if he does not do honestly the work required of him.

So at the Home Circle University, which I advocate, he must be measured and tested by his own honest rules for self measurement. The same results can be accomplished in either case.

In the great strife of civil life, the questions are,—What can a man do? What is he capable of? Not whether he has a diploma, or a rich father, or a distinguished uncle. I gave my son a chance to acquire a university education, admonishing him that he must improve the chance or fail.

The 1039 young men and women who secured diplomas from Harvard on the 26th day of last June, and the 576 of Yale graduates and the hundreds of others from small colleges, must enter the arena, and win success on their merits alone.

Abraham Lincoln's equipment was won by honest effort by the light of a pine knot, and in the forensic contests of his earliest years, and the political debates of his more mature years, with the great debater, Stephen Douglas, as an opponent.

"In life's earnest battle, they only prevail,

Who ever press forward, and never fail."

After music by the Band, this was followed by an address by Rev. Homer White:—

DEAR FRIENDS—OLD FRIENDS,—I may say, for there are some faces here now grown old which I well remember when they were younger than they are now and when my own hair was not quite so light colored as it is at present. I am happy to be here on this occasion, not that I may indulge in throwing bouquets at myself, but that I may share in your pride and pleasure in this beautiful library and help you to do honor to those distinguished sons of Reading—"native and to the manor born," whose names are inscribed on this tablet and whom you all respect. I am myself but an adopted son, but that is honor enough for me.

There are some noble names on this tablet—names

of men whom I well knew and to whose talents and virtues I am able to bear witness. Two of them, Calvin L. Robinson and Frank Robinson were my teachers—the latter in the old school house here which was then almost a new school house, where I attended when I was sixteen years of age and where in company with some others, I struggled with Latin and Algebra. These teachers are both now dead. Far from Reading and from these green hills which they loved and whose strength seemed to have entered into their characters, they died—one in the far South, the other in the far West. I would that they might be here today, to utter words befitting this occasion. But though dead they yet speak to us by the examples they left behind them—examples of worthy ambition, energy, painstaking and consequent success.

I am glad and proud to be with you—not proud because I am a college graduate, but proud because my name has been thought worthy to be placed among the names of those more deserving of the honor. Reading honors them because they have honored Reading. It has been left to another adopted son of Reading to perpetuate their names and memories in enduring bronze, and in thus doing honor to true merit, he is unconsciously doing honor to himself. But what shall we say of Reading herself, the mother of these “immortals”, the mother who bore and nourished them, and trained them for their life-work?

“Let good old Reading’s praise be sung :

Her hills and men stand high ;

Her noble women, old and young,

Content the gazing eye.

Her sons have done her honor high ;

Her maids are beauty-crowned ;

And where beneath the dome of sky

Can fairer homes be found ?

With past secure, with present fame,
Her future let us see
So filled with noble deeds and names,
More tablets there will be.

And on them written will appear
Some names, now all unknown,
Whose sheen will dim the ones now here
Which Reading calls her own.

And in that time so good and grand,
May Reading have, as now,
A Davis—one whose generous hand
Twines laurel on her brow.

Mr. White was followed by Prof. Fred W. Shattuck, of Boston, Mass., who spoke as representative of those whose names appear upon the tablet. This concluded the morning's exercises, and then until two in the afternoon, was devoted to a basket picnic, with the village lawns and houses serving as a picnic ground for old friends or strangers.

At two, the band again called the people together at the Valley house, and preceded them to the Baptist church, where the exercises of the afternoon were to take place. Although this is the largest church in town, it was inadequate to the occasion, many being obliged to stand during the speaking.

The exercises were opened with prayer by Rev. P. M. Bauknight, of the Baptist church. Geo. D. Burnham, with a few timely remarks, then introduced B. M. Newton of Felchville, who gave the welcoming address. Mr. Newton was followed by Ira B. Hathorn, of Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. Hathorn apologized for leaving the town so long ago, sixty years, when he was but six years of age. He said for that reason that about all that he knew of Reading and its people came from his father and mother who though miles away in body, never ceased to live in mind among their old Reading friends.

Thomas Curley, of Waltham, Mass., said that he was not old enough to give reminiscences that would be interesting, so he chose another word beginning with R, and said he was going to ramble. This he did in a happy manner, touching on the two great modern "inventions," trusts and telegraphy, and also on the "eye-opener" Vermont has just received along political lines.

Gilbert A. Davis then interested and enlivened the audience with a short, keen speech, with good natured hits at current events. Mr. Burnham here surprised Otis C. Sawyer of Sharon, by calling him from the audience for a speech. Mr. Sawyer was equal to the occasion, and told stories of his boyhood in Reading; how he earned his first money wheeling shavings for Mr. Davis, for three cents a barrel, and how big the three cents looked to him. He concluded by reciting one of the popular jokes, used by George M. Clark and "Hank" White, when traveling with Whitmore and Clark's minstrels, an organization dear to the heart of every true son of Reading.

Rev. Homer White of Randolph, was the next speaker, and in order to vary the program, instead of a speech, recited an original poem entitled, "The Ballad of Bennington Battle."

THE BALLAD OF BENNINGTON BATTLE.

(By Homer White.)

The Hessians they are coming on
With Indians in the van!
Was the latest news at Bennington
Told to that spunky man,
Whom Molly Stark called husband then,
Some hundred years ago,
While he with few but valiant men
Was waiting for the foe.

For Burgoyne's gaunt and hungry horde
Upon the Hudson lay
And longed for the provisions stored
In Bennington that day.
'Twas told that Col. Baum, who led
Five hundred Hessians more,
Would soon with yelling braves ahead
Be knocking at the door.
For Col. Greg sent out to fight
A handful of red braves,
Was now returning in full flight
His small command to save.
He'd found behind the Indian veil
The Hessian troops arrayed—
Men hired by gold o'er seas to sail ;
For warfare was their trade.
Drums beat to arms—with eager feet
Men fell in line—the foe was near !
Their flints they pecked while pulses beat
Without one throb of fear.
Then forth they marched, brave men and strong,
Their coming guests to meet.
They carried death with them along,
But not a thing to eat.
Militia men from Berkshire came
Just in the nick of time
To heap on hired butchers shame
And scourge them for their crime.
They followed where their chieftain led
To check th' invading host
Of savages both white and red
Whom England's power could boast.
Five hundred men at Stark's command,
Nichols and Herrick led
Against the hungry Hessian band
That fought for gold and bread.

Those mountaineers whose cheeks were tanned,
But never blanched by fear,
Like waves that beat upon the strand
Charged on the Hessian rear.

Baum's Indian allies saw and fled
And he was left alone

While fast his men fell round him dead
And loud the wounded groaned.

Yet still with stubborn will he fought
To win both bread and glory
And sullenly returned each shot
Sped on its mission gory.

The battle raged that August day
For two long bloody hours :

The grass was red where still forms lay
And trampled were the flowers.

The Hessian works were ta'en by storm—
Their cannon ceased to play—

St. George's flag was lowered and Baum
A wounded prisoner lay.

The victors rest—a moment so—
Upon the bloody field

Where dead and dying, friend and foe,
True courage have revealed.

But hark!—that shout!—what does it bode?
See! see! what troop comes there.

Rushing along the dusty road
With cries that shake the air?

More British? No; 'tis Warner, brave,
And his Green Mountain Boys,
Who come with such a rushing wave
And such tumultuous noise.

From Manchester they've marched with speed
To share the fight now done,

But only come in time to lead
In cheers for vic'try won.

But this they think a scant supply
Of glory for the day,
When Breyman's troops they learn are nigh—
But two short miles away.
Then "Forward!" rang the sharp command
And quickly Warner turned
To teach the second Hessian band
The lesson Baum had learned.
His gallant Boys were ready, all;
None thought of falling back,
But forward sprang at that first call
Like hounds upon the track.
A rapid march and soon they met
The swift advancing foe
Hasting to Baum—they knew not yet
John Stark had laid him low.
No time they lose—no parley hold;
The battle-breeze was fanned
By men who battled not for gold,
But home and native land.
Seth Warner's Boys for action burned;
Their wrath was running o'er;
And sharp each rifle-crack returned
The British musket's roar.
And when the sun that day did fade
The red coats were in flight,
Dispersed by men whose souls displayed
The uniform of right.
The fight was done—they cheered with will
The double vic'try won,
While echo told, from hill to hill,
That saved was Bennington!

* * *

Now, we the sons of those brave men
Who won that gallant fight
Look backward to that field of fame

And see young Freedom's light.
We see it rise and spread and flame
O'er mountain peak and vale,
While cheers that rang so long ago
Come like a rushing gale.

The last speaker of the afternoon was Adin C. Estabrook, of Lunenburg, Mass., a gentleman who is a master of the art of story telling, who sent the audience away in good humor, chuckling at his stories of people, who, when he was a boy, helped to make Reading one of the prosperous towns of Vermont. The program of both morning and afternoon was enlivened from time to time with music by the band, the Verdi ladies' quartette, and a mixed quartette. Great credit is to be given to the various officers and committees, for the most satisfactory manner in which they carried through what they had undertaken for the pleasure of those present, and the good of Old Reading.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE DAY.

Officers—Geo. D. Burnham, President; Fred C. Furber, 1st Vice President; Mrs. N. E. E. Perkins, 2nd Vice President; D. E. Washburn, Secretary; B. M. Newton, Treasurer.

Executive Committee—W. R. Kinson, M. D., B. M. Newton, M. G. Amsden.

Program Committee—B. M. Newton, Geo. D. Burnham, Mrs. O. S. Holden.

Chaplains—Rev. H. Gertrude Roscoe, Rev. P. M. Bauknight.

CHAPTER XI.

Cemeteries.

The first burying ground in Reading, so far as is known, was situated a short distance north of the "David Hammond" place, occupied of late years by Edmund S. Hammond. In this, there are about 75 graves, marked by rough, unlettered stones.

The inscription on two of the stones are still legible : one marks the grave of Maj. Ezra Fay, the other marks the grave of a daughter of David Hapgood.

There is another cemetery on the east side of the old highway, leading from the "Eastman farm" to the "Washburn farm," now occupied by Mr. Rowlee.

This ground was not very extensively used, many of the graves here being also unmarked. In the so called "Chase District" near the Woodstock line, is a burial ground which was in use at one time, and there some people by the name of Pope are interred.

In the western part of the town there is a burying ground near Lowell Ackley's, but this has not been in use for a great number of years. There is a small burying ground on the Simeon Buck farm. Abiah Rice, his wife, and two children are interred just westerly of the Hammondsville hotel, near the brook and highway. These graves are surrounded by a wooden fence.

The cemetery in the eastern part of the town, near Merritt G. Amsden's, was given to the public by Abel Amsden, about the year 1800. On the 23rd day of June, 1804, John Weld deeded a parcel of land for a public burying ground, containing one acre and two rods, near Benjamin Sawyer's. On the 13th day of Sept., 1831, Nathaniel Swain deeded to the town of Reading, a parcel of land for a burial place, containing 60 sqr. rods.

This was in the Brown school house district, and contains about 20 graves that were marked with headstones. On the 19th of April, 1831, Moses Spear of Windsor, deeded to the town of Reading, a parcel of land for a burial ground, near Marcellus Bryant's, in the northeastern part of the town.

On the 1st day of May, 1808, David Hapgood deeded to the inhabitants of the town of Reading, a parcel of land for the purpose of burying their dead, east of Bailey's Mills, and now used for that purpose.

The cemetery at South Reading, was deeded by John Sawyer, to the inhabitants of the "Vernon school district," Oct. 9th, 1816. The Felchville Cemetery Association was organized under a special charter, granted by the legislature in 1858. The land now in use by that association was conveyed to it by Orpheus Coburn, under the date of Nov. 18th, 1858.

The grounds were laid out into lots, with avenues and walks, and a tomb erected. The site commands a fine view of the valley south of Felchville.

CHAPTER XII.

Gilbert A. Davis.

Gilbert A. Davis, the son of Asa and Mary (Hosmer) Davis, was born at Chester, Vt., Dec. 18, 1835. His ancestry on the Davis side, and his descendents are as follows :—

- (1) William Davis, of Roxbury, Mass., born in 1617, (who was of Roxbury, in 1642). A tradition held extensively in the family is, that he came from Wales about 1635. He married for his third wife, Jane——, born at Roxbury. He had eleven children.
- (2) Of these, by his third wife, Jane, Ichabod Davis, was b April 1, 1676, m Bethya ——, baptised ——, was deacon of the Congl. church at Roxbury, Mass., and by trade a tailor. He d March, 1754.
- (3) Of their children, Jacob Davis, b Oct. 8, 1706, m Jemima Healey.
- (4) Of their children, Jacob Davis, b Sept. 17, 1742. m Dorothy Baker.
- (5) Of their children, Stephen Davis, was b at Roxbury, Mass., March 20, 1765, m Martha Tilston, of Dorchester, Mass.
- (6) Of their children, Asa Davis, was b at Roxbury, Mass., Aug. 22, 1789, m Mary Hosmer, Oct. 12, 1815, at Chester, Vt., d Jan. 13, 1873, at Reading, Vt., at the home of his son, Gilbert A. Davis. He was a hatter by trade, and arrived in Chester in 1812, and resided there the remainder of his life. He, with his wife, were members of the Congregational church for very many years. He was an Anti-Slavery man

from the organization of the party, and voted for James G. Birney in 1841, for President and for every successive candidate of that party. He aided fugitive slaves to escape, and entertained them at his house and helped them along to Canada, by the "under ground railroad."

- (7) Of their children, Gilbert A. Davis, was b Dec. 18, 1835, at Chester, Vt., m Delia I. Bolles, April 13, 1862, at Turner, Ill., and now resides at Windsor, Vt.
- (8) Of their children, Charles Esek Davis, was b at Reading, Vt., Jan. 10, 1864, and d at Turner Junction, (now West Chicago, Ill.) Aug. 24, 1865.
- (8) George Gilbert Davis, was b at Reading, Vt., Dec. 7, 1866, and d at Reading, Sept. 5, 1868.
- (8) Mary Isabella Davis, was b July 1, 1872, at Reading, Vt., m Stanley Carlton, at Windsor, June 11, 1895. Graduated at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., in 1894.
- (8) Gilbert Franklin Davis, b at Reading, Vt., June 19, 1877. Graduated at Harvard university, 1901, and is now a student in Harvard Law School.
- (9) Gilbert Davis Carlton, son of Stanley and Mary (Davis) Carlton, b at Oak Park, Ill., Nov. 23, 1901.

Gilbert A. Davis' ancestry on his mother's side, is as follows:—

- (I) Wm. Hosmer, b — 1728, d March 26, 1802, aged 74 years. Anna Hosmer, wife of Wm., d July 7, 1818, aged 86 years. Their children were:
- (II) William Hosmer, b — 1757, d March 23, 1813, aged 56 years.
- (II) Amos Hosmer, b Nov. 9, 1759, m Sybil Parker, Sept. 1, 1764, and d at Chester, Vt., Jan. 18, 1831, aged 71 yrs., 2 mos., 9 days.

(II) Lucy Hosmer, b ——— 1762, m Bemannuel Pratt, of Townsend, Mass., and d at Chester, Vt., March 7, 1845, aged 87 years, at the home of her daughter, Susan, who had m Dr. Ptolemy Edson.

(II) Oliver Hosmer, b ——— 1764.

(II) Name unknown, daughter, m Mr. Stimpson.

(II) Name unknown, daughter, m Mr. Boutwell.

(II) Anna, m Mr. Joseph Stickney.

(II) Reuben

The descendents of William Hosmer (II), were,—

(III) William P. Hosmer, b at Chester, Vt., m Susan Augusta Paddleford, May 22, 1845. Their children were :—

(IV) Jesse Heald Hosmer, b May 8, 1848.

(IV) Maria Eusebe, b Sept. 1, 1856.

Amos Hosmer (II), b Nov. 9, 1759, son of Wm. and Anna Hosmer, m Sybil Parker. Their children were :—

(III) (1) Polly, b Sept. 18, 1785, d Jan. 29, 1787.

(2) Randolph, b May 6, 1787, d May 18, 1795.

(3) Amos H., b Jan. 26, 1789.

(4) Sybil, b Jan. 5, 1791.

(5) Lovina, b Aug. 28, 1792.

(6) Mary, b March 21, 1799.

Sybil (Parker) Hosmer was b at Chester, Vt., Sept. 1, 1764, and d Oct. 4, 1833, at Chester, Vt., aged 69 years, 1 mo., and 3 days.

Amos H. Hosmer (III), removed to Baltimore, Md., where he raised a large family, and died honored and respected. He was a strong supporter of the Union cause during the Rebellion.

Sybil (III), m Samuel Jordan Feb. 18, 1811. (This family removed to Adrian, Mich.)

Lovina, (III), m Roswell Earle, 2nd, Oct. 15, 1812. (This family resided in Chester, Vt.)

Mary, (III), m Asa Davis. (This family resided in

Chester, Vt.)

Anna Hosmer, (11), daughter of Wm. and Anna Hosmer, m Joseph Stickney, at Ipswich, N. H. Their son, George Washington Stickney, was b at Ipswich, N. H., Oct. 25, 1804. The family removed to Andover, Vt., in April, 1806, bringing with them their son George, and aside from one season, which was spent in Mass., his entire life was passed on the farm on which he died, the Stickney homestead. He received a common school education, and in his class always maintained an advanced position. He was married in Nov., 1832, to Roxcelana Burton. Eight children were born to them, four of whom are still living, and were with him in his last hours. Mr. Stickney was a marked character in the affairs of town, county, and state, a man of large intelligence, strong and honest convictions, well read in history and current events.

He was called to town office at the age of twenty-five, and from that time constantly served in some capacity as a town officer, six times representing the town in the legislature, being a member of that body, when called together by Gov. Smith, to ratify the 14th amendment. He was elected a Justice of the Peace when he was about thirty years of age, which office he held up to the time of his death, with the exception of two years. He early espoused the anti-slavery cause, and upon the organization of a temperance society here, became an active, worthy member, and vice president. He was emphatically an honest man, and to all who have known him intimately, his character stands forth like a granite pyramid, not dazzling, but strong and enduring, and will not gather moss as the years roll on. His funeral was largely attended, not only by the people of his own town, but of the neighboring towns also.

He died Aug. 6, 1894, aged 89 years, 9 mos., 12 days. Rev. R. T. Sawyer, of Merovale, Mass., attended his funeral.

CHAPTER XIII.

The Gilbert A. Davis Family Record.

- (I) Wm. Davis (1) of Roxbury, Mass., b in 1617, had three wives. See Davis' Genealogy, a book compiled by Hon. Chas. A. Davis, of No. Andover, Mass.

His children by Jane (his third wife) were :—

- (II) Ichabod, (2) b April 1, 1676, d March 16, 1754.

- (II) Ebenezer, (2) b April 9, 1678.

Ichabod Davis, (2) (son of William and Jane) was baptized April 2, 1676, m Bethya ———. Ichabod Davis d 16 March, 1754, aged 77.

- (III) Of his children, Jacob Davis, (3) m Jemima Healey, who d Feb. 26. 1704, aged 22.

- (IV) Among their children was, Jacob Davis, (4) b Sept. 17, 1742, m Dorothy Baker, Oct. 30, 1764, of Dedham, Mass. Jacob Davis d July 1, 1809, aged 67 years. Jacob Davis was a Lieutenant of Capt. Moses Whiting's Company of Roxbury Minute Men, and responded to their company's call. April 19, 1775, and did good service on that memorable occasion, serving 28 days. This company was at first made a part of Col. Heath's regiment, and then of Col. Groaton's regiment, serving through the campaigns of 1775 and 1776. Jacob Davis was a farmer and butcher, and resided at Jamaica Plains, Roxbury, Mass.

Children of Jacob (4) and Dorothy (Baker) Davis:—

- (1) Stephen Davis, (5) d March 22, 1821, aged 56 years.
 (2) Loachada Davis, (5) b Sept. 22, 1776, d Nov. 6, 1811, m John Davis. (No relation.)

- (3) Abigail Whiting Davis, (5) b June 10, 1768, d April 2, 1815, m Joel Gay, and settled in Montpelier, Vt.

- (4) Asa Davis, (5) b Feb. 10, 1771.
- (5) Lemuel Baker Davis, (5) b Jan. 16, 1774, m Relief Tileston, d March 3, 1815, had a son, Ichabod(6).
- (6) Anne Davis, (5) b Nov. 7, 1775.
- (7) Jacob Davis, (5) b Oct. 4, 1779.
- (8) John Davis, (5) b July 22, 1781, m Thankful Reed.
- (9) Nancy Davis, (5) b July 12, 1783.
- (v) Lochada Davis, (5) m John Davis, (no relation) and d Nov. 6, 1811.

Children of Lochada (5) and John Davis.

Abigail Willard (6).

Martha, (6) b Jan. 21, 1804, m Geo. B. Davis, son of John (5), grandson of Jacob (4.)

John Amory (6).

- (vi) Lochada, (6) m Francis Dana, currier, and had four children, two sons and two daughters.

Mariah (6).

Children of Lochada Davis, (6) and Francis Dana, daughter, (7) m ——— Murcks, and lives in Baltimore, Md.

George Augusta Dana, (7) lives in Newton, and is clerk in store in Boston.

- (v) Abigail Davis, (5) m Joel Gay, a leather dresser. Her second husband was Moses Whiting, of Dedham. The children of Abigail Davis, (5) and Joel Gay, were :—

Joel Gay, (6) blacksmith.

Abigail Gay, (6) m ——— Whitney, went to Montpelier, Vt.

Nancy Gay, (6) b Jan. 19, 1775, m Thomas Cole, No. 28, Chestnut street, Salem, Mass. See letter from D. W. C. Farrington, Lowell, Mass.

See letter from Nancy D. Cole, April 16, 1884.

Mary W. Gay (6) m Leonard Farrington, farmer, and went to Walden, Vt.

George (6) blacksmith, went to Walden, Vt.

Joel Gay (6) left one son (7) who lives at New-

port, R. I.

- (v) Jacob Davis (5) m Elizabeth Davenport. Their children are :—

- (1) Anthony G. Davis (6) d in 1883 at Mapelton, Aroostock County, Me.
- (2) Jacob Eldridge Davis (6) lives at Gardner, Me., and is carrying on the fur business at his father's old stand, (corner store Davis' Block).
- (3) Sarah Ann E. Davis (6).
- (4) Carolina Adelia Davis (6).

- (vi) Carolina Adelia (6) m Rev. Edward Dowse, a Congregational clergyman, residing in Sherborne, Mass., who has been chaplain of Mass. Senate in 1884.

Sarah Ann E. (6) m ——— Swan, d about 1878.
Child of Sarah Ann E. Davis and ——— Swan.

- (vii) Caroline Davenport Swan (7) Gardner, Me.

- (v) John Davis (5) son of Jacob, b July 22, 1781, m Thankful Reed of Boston.

Children,—

- (1) Geo. B. Davis (6) b Jan. 13, 1805, m his cousin, daughter of Lochada.
- (2) Edward Reed Davis (6) d in South America.
- (3) Joel Gay Davis (6) lives in Brighton, Mass.
- (4) John Davis (6) lives in Acton, Mass.
- (5) Elizabeth (6) d at home.

- (vi) Geo. B. (6) m ———.

Children of Geo. B. (6) and ——— Davis,—

- (1) George Francis Davis (7) merchant.
- (2) Charles Amory Davis (7) went to war, is deputy collector.
- (3) Edward Reed Davis (7) died.
- (4) Helen Maria Davis (7) died.

- (vi) Mary W. Gay (6) m Leonard Farrington, a farmer, who lived in Walden Vt., and d in Lowell, Mass., aged 62 years. Mary W., d in Cabot,

Vt.

Their children were :—

- (1) Davis Gay Farrington (7) b April 12, 1819. See letter from D. W. C. Farrington, Apr. 14, 1884.
- (2) DeWitt Clinton Farrington (7) b April 1, 1825, lives at Lowell, Mass.
- (3) George Gay Farrington (7) b Aug., 1827, d 1862.
- (II) Ichabod Davis (2) m Mary Seaver. See letter from Nancy Davis Cole.
- (III) Jacob Davis.

His daughter, Mary Davis (3) m John McKown, her first husband, and Abijah Willard, of Lancaster, Mass., for her second husband. Mary Davis was b at Roxbury, Mass., April 16, 1729, d at Lancaster, Mass., Dec. 16, 1807, aged 79.

Of Jacob Davis' (4) children :—

Stephen Davis (5) b March 20, 1765, d March 22, 1821, aged 56 years, m July 1, 1787, Martha Tileston of Dorchester, Mass., who was b Aug. 29, 1768, and who d Nov. 14, 1825, aged 57 years. Stephen Davis was a leather dresser, had his place of business on what is now Washington street, Roxbury, Mass. Neither Stephen Davis nor his wife was a church member, but they attended the Congregational church, of which Rev. Dr. Porter was pastor. He was one of the founders of Washington Lodge, F. & A. Masons, instituted at Roxbury, March 14, 1796, and was for many years Master of this lodge. He was commissioned Adj. of the Battalion of Artillery in the 1st Regt., 1st Div. of Mass. Militia, by Moses Gill, Lt. Gov. and Commander-in-Chief. His commission bears date June 12, 1799, "to take rank from 27 April, 1799, when elected". He held the position until March 1, 1804, when on resignation, he was honorably discharged. He was a tall, slim man, light complexion, and

of moderate circumstances as to property. He died of pulmonary consumption, and is buried in the old cemetery at Roxbury.

Martha Tileston, his wife, was the daughter of Nathaniel Tileston, of Dorchester, Mass. He was a farmer, and owned a gristmill, and lived at "Dorchester Point". She had brothers:—

(1) Euclid Tileston, who about 1860, was carrying on a gristmill at the old place. It was a tide-mill. He m Hannah Badlam in 1791, and Jane Withington in 1804.

(2) One of the sisters m ——— Whitney, of Dedham, Mass., a farmer.

(3) Jonathan Williams m Nancy Tileston, in 1802. From this marriage were born:—

Tileston Williams, Samuel Williams, and Elsie Williams, who resided with S. A. Dix, in Boston, for many years.

(4) Lemuel Shepard m Sarah Tileston. He was a wheelwright, and lived in Dorchester.

(5) One of the daughters m ——— Dunbar, teamster for the Custom House, and a man of some wealth.

Brothers and sisters of Stephen Davis:—

(v) John Davis, currier, lived in Roxbury, Mass.

(v) Jacob Davis, was b Oct. 14, 1779, at Roxbury, Mass. He removed to Gardiner, Me., and engaged in the business of a hatter, and for many years conducted a large and successful business at that place. Asa Davis served an apprenticeship of seven years with him, and learned all the details of the business of manufacturing hats as then carried on. Jacob Davis became a captain and did faithful service for his country in the war of 1812. In the year 1819, he was Representative from the Province of Maine, to the General Court of Mass., and in the same year

he was elected a delegate to the convention which arranged and prepared the way for Maine becoming a State in the Union. Captain Jacob Davis died in the year 1870, at his home in Gardiner, Maine, at the ripe age of over 91 years, respected and honored by all who knew him. His religious faith was that of an Episcopalian.

His sons and daughters :—

- (vi) Anthony Davis, in 1878, living at Gardiner, Maine, was connected with the publication of a newspaper at Augusta, Maine.
 - (vi) Elbridge Davis, kept hatters' furnishing goods.
 - (vi) Mary Davis, m ——— Swan.
- Children of Stephen Davis (5).
- (a) Stephen (6) b Dec. 22, 1787, was a circus rider, d in Portland, Me., m a lady in Portland, ——— Blanchard, and they had a daughter.
 - (b) Asa (6) b Aug. 22, 1789.
 - (c) Artemas (6) b Oct. 26, 1791, m Sarah Gardner Tuck, March 8, 1822, and resided on the island of Nantucket, Mass. At the time of the war of 1812, he lived in Salem, and was a private in a Volunteer Infantry Company, named the Essex Guards, under the command of Capt. Williams. This company was called out by authority, for the protection of the coast, and served a number of weeks, and received pay from the State of Mass. for that duty. Artemas, early in life, entered the office of ——— Tucker, a lawyer at Salem, Mass., as a student at law. He abandoned this, and went to Baltimore, and became a commission merchant, and there was married to Sarah Tuck. Afterwards he came to Boston, and went into the paint and oil business on Broad Street, under the style of Tuck & Davis. Subsequently he returned to the island of Nan-

tucket, and for many years, was an accountant.
Children of Artemas Davis:—

Sarah Elizabeth, (7) b Dec. 10, 1822, d April, 1826, at Boston.

Mary Susan, (7) b Aug. 6, 1824, d Aug. 18, 1829, at Boston.

Samuel Stephen, (7) b Nov. 25, 1835, m Avis Swift, daughter of Alexander S. Swift, who d Aug. 10, 1878. Samuel S. now resides at Brooklyn, N. Y.

Sarah Emeline, (7) b Jan. 2, 1829, d Sept. 5, 1829, at Brookline.

- (d) Martha (6) b March 1, 1793, m Wm. Seaver of Roxbury, Mass., a grocer. They had three children living.

William, a tea broker, in Philadelphia.

Martha and Sarah, daughters, unmarried, resided in Baltimore, Md.

Wm. Seaver, Sr., went to Baltimore, and went into the grocery business. Then went to Washington, and became a member of the firm of Seaver & Bulfinch, Grocers, Wines, &c., on Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Seaver was a great judge of liquors, teas, &c. In 1820 he was murdered between Washington and Alexandria. He had been to Alexandria to buy goods from foreign vessels, and, missing the stage and boat, was found near the bridge crossing the Potomac. The murder was thought to have been for the purpose of robbery. His widow subsequently kept a millinery establishment, including dress and mantau making, employing some 25 girls. She had the patronage of the best families in Washington. Her store was on Penna Avenue, and she amassed quite a property. She d at her home in Baltimore, Md.

- (e) Ebenezer (6) b June 11, 1794, d June 5, 1810.

- (f) Jacob Davis (6) b March 13, 1796, m, went to Charleston, S. C., and went into the firm of Rind & Co., as a book-keeper. This firm dealt in paints and oils. Then he went into the business of portrait, house, and sign painting. He d in Charlestown, S. C., Sept. 7, 1832. He m and they had several children, Jacob, Mary, and others.
- (g) Cecelia (6) b Dec. 22, 1798, m Stephen A. Dix, dealer in paints and oils, State St., Boston, Mass. They had three children:—
 Stephen A. (7), Sarah Anna (7), Francis Henry (7).
 Nancy Anna Davis, (6) b April 7, 1801, m ——— Wilcox, manufacturer of coffins, and undertaker, So. Boston, or Hingham. They had one daughter, Nancy, d ———.
- (h) Nathaniel Tileston, (6) b Oct. 11, 1802.
 When about 10 years old, he went to Gardiner, Me., and lived with "Uncle Jacob" two or three years. He was then carrying on the business of making and selling hats. Then returned to Roxbury, Mass., and went to school, and when about 13 years old, went by the brig "Rice Plant" from Boston to Charleston, S. C., to learn the painters trade of his brother. The voyage was about 10 days. Was with Jacob three or four years, then returned to Boston, and when about 17 years old went to sea in the ship "Independence" about 800 tons burden, a merchant ship, Capt. Wm. Flasket. Ship cleared from N. Y., went on a trading voyage, was "ship keeper", Started in spring; sailed southeasterly round Cape of Good Hope; touched Western Island to get provisions; touched at Botany Bay; then a penal settlement and delivered letters from some New York firms. Then went to Coast of New Zealand, landing at different

places, trading for "beach lamar", a worm about the size of one's wrist, which grows on the bottom of the sea and the natives procure by diving, making payments in powder, iron hoop, knives, glass beads. Could buy a bag containing 100 lbs., for one blue bead. Then traded in South Pacific, at many islands, Ladrone, Sandwich, Feejee. Discovered an island, named it "Independence". No vessel or white man had ever been there before. The natives were very timid. Captured first an old woman, made presents to her, and let her go; then the others came down to the boat and supplied them with fresh and dried fish, and cocoanut, the only products of the Isle, so far as they knew. After wandering among the South Sea Islands for about three years, the ship doubled Cape Horn, touched first at Pernambuco, then at Rio Janiero, Brazil, then at Cape Hatteras, and home again to New York, having been gone four years and four months.

The ship made harbor at Canton, and there made exchange of the ivory, 'beach lamar', and furs, for silks, ribbons, jute, &c., and took this cargo to New York. The cargo was one of the most valuable up to this time ever brought to New York City. After making a visit of a couple of months to his mother at Roxbury, Mass., he went to Charleston, S. C., where he remained about six months, when he went to Washington, into Wm. Seaver's store, where he remained until Mr. Seaver was murdered. Then he was in the store of Eaton & Galloway, dealers in all kinds of liquors. Was there about a year, had yellow fever, was very sick, and returned to Boston, and was there at Mr. Dix's about six months to recover from this sickness. Then

went to Washington and went into the store of the successors of Seaver & Bulfinch. Then went to work painting on the Capitol about two years. Then returned to Boston, and carried on the business of painting, sign, ornamental, house, and ship work. In prosecution of this business, he went to Wellfleet, on Cape Cod, to grain and paint a church inside. He there married Mrs. Hannah Kemp, widow of Capt. Nathan Kemp, a sea captain. She had three children, Hannah, aged about six, Robert, a small boy, now doing business at No. ——— Tremont St., retail dealer in boots and shoes, and organizer of the "Father Kemp Old Folks' Concert". Another son, Henry, died. The widow Kemp was keeping a retail store at Wellfleet, and Mr. Davis stepped in and took the business and went along with it, adding to it, the manufacture of paints and sale of oil, and manufactured salt. He stayed there four to six years and then removed to Malden, Mass., and bought the Capt. John Oakes farm of 75 acres. Lived here seven or eight years. Built a large two-story house. He sold this farm and went to Boston, and had a retail dry goods store on Hanover street, for about ten years. Here his wife died and he was married to Sophronia Lane, widow of Dr. Alfred Lane, who had resided the next door to Mr. Davis' store. Mrs. Lane had only one child living at the time of this marriage, Augusta, who became the wife of Simon Butler, of No. 144 Washington street, Somerville, Mass., and is in the hide and leather business. He subsequently bought a place of about one acre in South Reading,—now Wakefield,—Mass., where he lived three to five years, and then removed to No. 80 Mid-

dlesex street, Chelsea, Mass., and engaged in the business of painting so long as his health would permit. Visited Chester and Felchville summer of 1878.

- (i) Sally (6) b April 2, 1804, m Charles Lowrey, a printer at Charleston, S. C. They moved to Washington, D. C., and had one son who went into the Union Army. Sarah died —
- (j) Abigail (6) b May 8, 1806, d Sept. 5, 1806.
- (k) Elizabeth Dorothy (6) b April 15, 1809, d February 14, 1818.

Children of Wm. Seaver and Martha Davis (6)—

The son, Wm. R. Seaver, removed to New York City, and was successful in business. He never married. He was a devoted, generous and self-sacrificing brother. His sisters loved him and had entire confidence in his judgment. At the time of his death, intestate, in 1896, he resided at Newark, N. J.

Sarah A. C. Seaver was his sole heir, Martha Seaver having died in 1889.

Sarah died at Baltimore, Md., June 27, 1900, unmarried, in the 84th year of her age. She owned, and at the time of her death, resided at No. 13 No. Calhoun street.

A controversy arose over an instrument purporting to be her last will and testament, written and executed Dec. 5, 1898, in which she had entirely ignored and disinherited her heirs-at-law, and cousins, Charles L. Davis, Gilbert A. Davis, Samuel S. Davis, Sarah A. Gordon, and Martha T. Miller, and these cousins filed a caveat, and contested the allowance of said instrument. Miss Seaver had made three wills previous to this, in each of which she had recognized her cousins and devised to them the balance of her estate. The last of these wills

was executed on May 27, 1898. The Orphans' Court of Baltimore City, after a protracted hearing Aug. 30, 1891, by a majority decision sustained the instrument of Dec. 5, 1898 as her last will. The cousins at once appealed to the Court of Errors and Appeals, and that Court by unanimous opinion of the Judges reversed the order of the Orphans' Court, set aside the instrument of Dec. 5, 1898, and established the will of May 27, 1898. O'Brien, J., in giving the dissenting opinion in the Orphans' Court, used this language :—

“Miss Seaver had all through her life been recognised by her friends and acquaintances as “a woman of culture and refinement, and in her “later years as a bright, intelligent, and courteous person. affable and kind to her friends, “and very capable in transacting business “affairs”.

The Seaver family are interred in lot 129, in Green Mount Cemetery, Baltimore, Md.

CHAPTER XIV.

Delia I. (Bolles) Davis' Ancestry and Descendants.

- (I) Joseph Bolles, 1608—1678.
- (II) Samuel Bolles, b March 12, 1646, d 17—.
- (III) Jonathan Bolles.
Children of Jonathan and Mary Bolles,—
- (IV) 2. Mary Bolles, b Dec. 11, 1723.
- (IV) 3. Hannah Bolles, b Dec. 25, 1725.
- (IV) 4. John Bolles, b Oct. 29, 1727.
- (IV) 5. Jonathan Bolles, Jr. b Dec. 19, 1728, m Elizabeth Randall, 1758, and removed to Richmond, N. H., whence he removed to Rockingham, Vt., and d 1824. He had 12 children, viz :—
- (V) 1. Solomon Bolles. He had five children. (1) Timothy, (VI) b Aug. 7, 1780, (2) Elijah, (VI) b Aug. 1, 1782, (3) Abigail, (VI) b Oct. 18, 1786, (4) Isaac, (VI) b June 2, 1788, (5) Samuel, (VI) b May 21, 1793.
- (V) 2. Mary Bolles, 2nd.
- (V) 3. Thankful Bolles, m her cousin, Rev. Nath'l Bolles, d Nov. 19, 1849.
- (V) 4. John Bolles, 1769, b in Vt., moved to Oswego, N. Y., 1818, m Deborah Ingals, d Oct. 21, 1856. He had five children, to wit :—
- (VI) 1. Esther, m first Elisha Jones, and had six children. He d and she then m Hiram Lewis, the widower of her sister Harriet ;
- (VI) 2. Mary, m Porter Stockwell, had three children, d. Mr. Stockwell lives in Oswego, N. Y.;
- (VI) 3. Harriet m Hiram Lewis, of Schenectady, had four children and d. Mr. Lewis lived at Apolacan, Little Meadows, Pa.;

- (vi) 4. Alexander H. m Mahala Harden of Exeter, Pa., resided at Meshoppan, Pa., Wyoming Co., has had six children.
- (vi) 5. Silas Bolles, Rev., b at Williamstown, Vt., Sept. 5, 1810, lived in St. Paul, Minn., m 1st. Helen Seeley, of Sodus, N. Y.; 2nd, Charlotte Huckins, has had four children :—
(1) Helen, (2) John. (3) Edmond, (4) Minnesota.
- (v) 5. William Bolles, son of Johnathan, Jr., insane, never m.
- (v) 6. Sarah.
- (v) 7. Jonathan.
- (v) 8. Rest, d 1860.
- (v) 9. Nicholas Bolles, son of Jonathan, Jr., d in Rockingham, Vt., Nov. 19, 1775. m Sarah E. House, of Rockingham, had seven children, and d Dec. 28, 1850. His wife d Dec. 19, 1826. His children were, viz :—
(1) Salome Bolles (vi) b Dec. 10, 1802, single, lived in Maine Village, N. Y.
(2) Caroline Bolles, (vi) b June 10, 1805, m Stephen Parker, and d in Watertown. N. Y., about 1827 ; she had one child named Jason Parker.
(3) Jason R. Bolles, (vi) b April 30, 1807, m Caroline E. Holden, April 10, 1844, lived in Maine Village, N. Y. They have had children, viz :—
Wallis B. Bolles, b April 16, 1845, Jerome, b July 7, 1846, Columbus C., b April 11, 1848, Lafayette, b Nov. 16, 1850, Isabel, b March 21, 1852, Elvira, b May 6, 1859.
- (4) Charles H. Bolles, (vi) b May 12, 1809, m Abigail Rollins of Union, N. Y., April 22, 1836, lived in Philadelphia ; a physician ; has had two children, viz :—
Charles R., b Oct. 13, 1838, d April 8, 1845 ;

and Abigail A., b Nov. 11, 1843, m C. G. Adams, Philadelphia, Jan. 2, 1860.

- (5) Freeman Bolles, (vi) b Sept. 20, 1814, m, lived in Maine Village, N. Y., has had four children, viz.—(1) Sarah, b Oct. 2, 1839; (2) Caroline, b March 6, 1841; (3) Cynthia, b May 3, 1843; (4) Martha, b July 23, 1846.

(6) Mary Ann Bolles (vi) b March 22, 1818, d Oct. 8, 1819.

(7) Ira Bolles (vi) b Jan. 19, 1820 d May 25, 1839.

- (v) 10. Lemuel Bolles, son of Jonathan Bolles, Jr., b in Richmond, N. H., July 20, 1777, m Mary Chamberlain of Keene, N. H., and had seven children. He d in Rockingham, Vt., Aug. 26, 1827. Mary Chamberlain was b May 8, 1778, and d Jan. 5, 1837. Their children were as follows, namely:—

1. Lemuel Bolles, Jr., (vi) b June 1, 1808, m Mary A. Weaver, lived in Cambridgeport, Vt., and d there May 28, 1849. He had three children, Delia, I. (vii) Esek C., (vii) Charles Edwin, (vii) Esek Constantine Bolles b Oct. 5, 1842, at Grafton, Vt., was a member of Co. K., 13th Ill. Vol.; was a R. R. Conductor, and was accidentally killed at Momence, Ind., Aug. 24, 1865.

Charles Edwin Bolles b at Grafton, Vt., Oct. 14, 1844, was a member of Co. K., 13th Regt., Ill. Vols., and now resides at Oak Park, Ill. He is President of the Avenue State Bank, and is of the firm of Bolles & Rogers, 142 Kenzie St., Chicago, Ill., dealers in Hides, Wool &c.

Mary Bolles, after the death of her first husband, was m to George J. Atcherson, at Grafton, Vt., and they immediately removed to

Illinois, and resided for a long time at Turner Junction.

2. Ithamar Bolles, (vi) b Feb. 28, 1811, m Martha S. Wood, 1839, was for many years a Justice of the Peace ; he lived and died in Cambridgeport, Vt., and they had two children, viz :—

Francis A. b 1844, now an Attorney at Law, at Bellows Falls, Vt., and another who d in infancy. Mrs. B. d Nov. 27, 1859. He subsequently m Rebecca Farr, of Athens, Vt., by whom one son was b, Fred Bolles.

3. Nelson Bolles, (vi) b April 7, 1817, m Eme-line Putnam, was a farmer, lived in Cambridgeport, and Newfane, Vt., and d April 17, 1883 ; they had five children, viz :—
Esther, Lemuel, Mary, Ella, (who d aged two years) and George.

4. Hannah Bolles, (vi) b May 7, 1806, m Prosper Merrill, of Felchville, Vt., and d Nov. 1, 1898. They had one child, viz :—John Bissell Merrill.

5. Nancy Bolles, (vi) b Oct. 19, 1804, m Peleg Winslow, and lived in Townsend, Vt., d Oct. 31, 1893, and they had five children, viz :—George, Nelson, Samuel, Rhoda, and Lemuel, all of whom are dead.

6. Delia Augusta Bolles, (vi) b Feb. 15, 1821, m Samuel B. Wells, and lived many years in Athens, and Brattleboro. Vt., and she d Nov. 23, 1884. They had four children, viz :—Lucian, May, Cora, and Samuel.

7. Mary Bolles, (vi) b Sept. 8, 1813, d March 1829.

- (v) 11. Phineas, son of Jonathan Bolles, Jr., moved from Rockingham to Woodford, Vt. His sons were Lyman, Calvin, and Lewis, his

daughters were Lydia and Martha.

- (v) 12. Hannah Bolles, twelfth child of Jonathan Bolles, Jr., of whose birth, marriage or death, I have been unable to obtain any information.

- (vii) Delia I. Bolles was b at Grafton, Vt., in the village of Cambridgeport, Jan. 17, 1840. She married Gilbert A. Davis at Turner Junction, Ill., April 13, 1862, the marriage ceremony having been performed in the Methodist church, by the Rev. J. T. Hanna, then of Naperville, Ill.

CHAPTER XV.

Family Genealogies and Biographical Sketches.

This chapter and other chapters will contain such sketches as I have been able to obtain. I wish it could have been made more complete, realizing that many items of interest will soon be lost, if not gathered and preserved in this way.

The Amsden Family, Ancestors of Abel Amsden,
By Arthur H. Keyes.

Isaac Amsden came from England, first heard of in Cambridge, Mass., where he m Francis Perriman, June 8, 1654. He d in Cambridge, April 7th, 1659.

Children,—Isaac, b in Cambridge in 1655, Jacob, b in Cambridge, Nov. 7, 1657. Isaac m Jane Rutter at Cambridge, May 17, 1677. He d at Marlboro, Mass., May 3, 1727.

Children,—Elizabeth, b in Cambridge, Feb. 2, 1678, Isaac, b in Cambridge, Aug. 24, 1680, John, b in Marlboro, Dec. 28, 1683, Thomas, b in Marlboro, Jan. 9, 1686. Jacob, b in Marlboro, Feb. 29, 1689, Abraham, b in Marlboro, Oct. 15, 1692.

Abraham m Hannah Newton. at Marlboro, Nov. 29, 1722. He d at Marlboro, March 7, 1763.

Children,—Abraham, b in Marlboro, Aug. 29, 1723, Uriah, b in Marlboro, June 10, 1725, Jacob, b in Marlboro, May 28, 1728, Bezaleel, b in Marlboro, March 17, 1731, Francis, b in Marlboro, Dec. 24, 1734, Hannah, b in Marlboro, April 13, 1739.

Abraham, m Hannah Whitcomb at Marlboro, in 1745 or '46.

Children,—Lucy, b in Southboro, July 11, 1747, Mollie, b in Southboro, Nov. 17, 1749, Abraham, b in Southboro, Feb. 20, 1752; Abel, b in Southboro, Sept. 1, 1755.

Abel Amsden m Mary Fish in 1780, and Sybil Hubbard Nov. 23, 1785, and Susan Story, May, 1813. He d July 25, 1828. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Reading, and a prominent citizen of the town for many years. An account of his life and the names of his family will be found elsewhere in this volume.

Additional facts regarding the ancestors of Abel Amsden, of Reading, Vt. (Copied from History of Marlboro, Mass).

Isaac Amsden, (A. Amsden's great grandfather) son of Isaac Amsden, 1st, of Cambridge, Mass., was the proprietor of the Ockoocangasett purchase in 1684. He was in Marlboro some years previous, and he m Jane Rutter of Sudbury, Mass. She d, his widow, Nov. 22, 1739.

Isaac Amsden, son of Isaac Amsden (2), above referred to, m July 24, 1705, Jiporah Beaman.

John, another son of Isaac A. (2), m Hannah ———

Thomas, another son of Isaac (2), m June 18, 1712, Eunice Howe.

Jacob, another son of Isaac (2), m Oct. 28, 1719, Sarah Beaman.

Abraham, youngest son of Isaac (2), m Hannah Newton, at Marlboro, Mass., Nov. 29, 1722.

Isaac Amsden, Jr., son of Isaac (2) of Cambridge, was a citizen of some prominence, and held His Majesty's commission as Captain. He d May 3, 1727, aged 47 years. His house was one of the garrison houses in 1711, near Wesson Place. He was town clerk of Marlboro, 1701, 1712, 1713.

Abraham Amsden, father of Abel Amsden, was a

resident of Marlboro in 1770. (See History of Marlboro, page 250.)

Abel Amsden.

By A. H. Keyes.

Abel Amsden came from Claremont to Reading in 1787, by marked trees, there being no roads in those days. A family by the name of Fish had moved from Massachusetts to West Windsor, near the Reading line and Abel Amsden was engaged to marry one of the daughters of that family, Mary Fish, and this was the reason for his emigration from Massachusetts, to that part of the country. The Fish family built a house on the farm now owned by Walter Hook.

Abel Amsden moved to Reading and built a log house on the site of the extreme L part of Merritt Amsden's present residence, where he lived with his first wife, Mary Fish. He started his farm with about fifty acres, and afterward increased it to four hundred acres. His father and mother came from Massachusetts when he was living in the log house, and lived with him until they died.

His first building after the erection of his log house, was a saw mill, which was located about three-quarters of a mile up Mill Brook from what is now known as the Blood place, on the farm now owned by George Morgan, and formerly owned by Alamander Wilkins. This was the first saw mill erected in Reading. The lumber from this saw mill was used to erect a white house which was built on the site of the log house before mentioned.

In this house the first Universalist sermon in Reading was preached by Rev. Samuel C. Loveland, and not in the brick house afterward erected by him and known now as the Blood place as stated in a former History of Reading by Mr. G. A. Davis.

He kept a tavern in this white house for years. In 1815 he built the brick house now known as the Blood place, and kept a tavern there. In this house he built a Masonic hall and regular Masonic meetings were held there once a month for several years, at a time when Masonry was in its prime. Masons from all the surrounding towns and from a long distance met regularly in this hall, and there was no more popular resort of Masons anywhere than Abel Amsden's hall. The square and compass, symbols of masonry, are seen to this day painted on the walls of the old hall, and the old tavern sign, with the words—"A. Amsden", and the spread eagle beneath them is carefully preserved by his descendants.

Mr. Amsden was a Mason and took a prominent part in the meetings. He was a great drover of cattle and drove large herds to Boston market every year. He also went to Boston every year in the winter time with his farm products and brought back salt and other provisions.

Considering that there were no railroads in those days, and that all this work had to be done with sleds, one can imagine it was no easy task to take a year's stock of farm produce from Reading to Boston and bring back provisions. In 1821 he built a flouring mill, a grist mill and carding works near the bridge, over the brook, just to the left of his brick hotel. In digging the canal to convey water to his grist mill, he met with a painful accident, knocking the skin off his shin with a shovel, which later terminated in a running sore, and for seven years until his death he was an invalid and was obliged to walk with a cane.

During this period of seven years' invalidity, he was attended by his youngest daughter, Charlotte Lucretia, who afterward became Mrs. Ferdinand Hawkins, and lived in Reading all her life. The mill erected in 1821 was destroyed by fire a few years later, and he afterward rebuilt it, and put in carding machines, but did

not reinstate the grist mill. The same machines used in his carding works are now in the old mill at Bailey's Mills.

Considering the fact that he came to Reading when it was a wilderness, and cleared two hundred acres of forests, and built the buildings above described, so that he was considered one of the wealthiest men in town in his time, it can be well said of him, that his success in life was a good example of the wonderful perseverance and industry shown in the lives of some of the early settlers of Reading.

Abel Amsden, father of Charlotte Lucretia (Amsden) Hawkins, was b Sept. 1, 1755, at Southboro, Mass., son of Abram and Hannah (Whitcomb) Amsden. He served four years in the Revolution, enlisting at Groton, Mass., May 20, 1775 as a private of Capt. Joseph Moore's Company, Col. Wm. Prescott's regiment, (eight months' service). He was twenty years of age when he enlisted, and served at first as a Captain's waiter. He enlisted later in Capt. John Drury's Co., Col. Ezra Wood's Regiment, stationed at North River, N. Y. Discharged Feb. 10, 1779. During this time he was in the New York Campaign, and was engaged in some of the fiercest battles, receiving an honorable discharge.

His pay in Continental Currency was so much depreciated that he paid \$70. of this currency for a dinner of corn bread and milk, the landlord not considering it an equivalent for the dinner. After the war he emigrated to Reading, Vt., which was then a wilderness, and cleared up a tract of land, and built a log hut about one and a half miles above what is now Felchville.

His father, Abram Amsden, came with him, and died in Reading. Abel's privations and hardships in clearing up his farm were severe, but his own iron will and hardy constitution carried him successfully through them all, and he became a large land-owner and quite wealthy for those days. His first log hut was built near

the red part of the house now owned by Merritt Amsden, opposite the Blood house.

He built the brick tavern commonly called the Blood place, and for a long time was its popular proprietor. He was a strong Universalist, and the first sermon preached in Reading by Rev. S. C. Loveland was delivered in his White Tavern, built prior to the Blood place on site of Merritt Amsden's house. He built a grist mill and carding works in 1821. These were destroyed by fire. He was a Mason, and some of the earliest meetings were held in his hall. He died July 25, 1828.

My grandmother was only 14 years old when he died, and as he was an invalid during the last years of his life, she being the youngest of the family and only child by his last wife, used to wait on him and care for him. His first pitch of land in Reading was of 50 acres, July 3rd, 1787, and on this land he passed the remainder of his days.

He married first, Mary Fish, in 1780, who d Feb. 24, 1785; second wife, Sybil Hubbard, Nov. 23, 1786; third, Susanna Story, in May, 1813. His children were,—

First wife, Polly, b April 5, 1781, Sally, b April 19, 1783, Abel, b Feb. 21, 1785. Second wife, Eliphelet, b Jan. 13, 1787; Asa, b in Reading, Feb. 4, 1789; Betsey, b in Reading, Aug. 18, 1791; Clarissa, b in Reading, Dec. 12, 1794; America, b in Reading, June 22, 1797; Lena, b in Reading, May 28, 1801; Livia or Olivia, b in Reading, Jan 27, 1803; Napoleon, b in Reading, Jan. 24, 1806. Third wife, Charlotte Lucretia, b March 20, 1814. Charlotte Lucretia (my grandmother) m Ferdinand Hawkins, Jan. 1, 1834. He d December 26, 1893. She d Aug. 14, 1901.

Abel Amsden's first wife, Mary Fish, was buried in an old cemetery bordering Ed. Hammond's farm, above Bailey's Mills, and Abel Amsden's father and mother were buried there too, but no gravestones mark their graves, and now there are no gravestones in this small

but ancient burial place, which is supposed to be the oldest cemetery in town.

Abel Amsden's second wife, Sybil Hubbard, lies buried near the Blood place, 'about a mile and a half above Felchville. Abel Amsden gave the land for this cemetery to the town of Reading as a free burial place. Abel Amsden's third wife, Susanna Story, was buried in this same cemetery. His first wife's body was stolen from the cemetery by medical students.

Asa m Lucy Robinson Feb. 27, 1812. Asa d July 31, 1832; Lucy, Sept. 4, 1869, both buried in cemetery above Felchville, Vt.

Children,—L. Harrison Amsden, Alanson O., Alonzo G., Rosalie M., Alzamon D., Orville D., R. Marcellus, Lucy Ann, Cardell, twins, Rosella and Marcella.

Alzamon m Harriet Jane Felch Sept. 9, 1841.

Children,—La Roy D., Wm. Elmer, Emery J., Clara L., twins, Ella and Emma, Harrie A., Minnie M.

Alzamon D. Amsden d at Felchville, Vt., Jan. 7, 1865; Harriet J. (Felch) Amsden d at Windsor, Vt., Jan. 15, 1896.

La Roy was drowned in Ludlow (Vt.) Lake, Aug. 21, 1865; Wm. Elmer was wounded March 5, 1864, at "Battle of the Wilderness". Supposed to have been taken prisoner and d in southern prison. Emma A. d June 6, 1866, and Emeroy J. d Aug. 19, 1876, at Felchville, Vt.

Emeroy J. m Christopher Twombly (English descent) Dec. 12, 1867.

Children,—Elmer James Twombly, who is unmarried, resides in Boston, Mass. He owns several Fruit and Produce wholesale stores in Maine, and is an experienced and shrewd buyer, attending to all that part of the business. Headquarters in Boston.

Clara L. m Henri Wilkins Jan. 1, 1873, at Felchville, Vt., by Wm. Felch, Esq., and now resides in Claremont, N. H.

Children,—Dean, b Oct. 27, 1874 ; Mabel, b July 12, 1876 ; Clyde, b April 30, 1883 ; Rock, b April 13, 1885.

Ella m Marshall Worcester, Oct. 2, 1873. He d 1893.

Children,—Lena E., Charlie C., Guy A., Ula B.

Harrie m Francise Cutler, Rutland, Vt., Feb. 25, 1886 ; Minnie m Dana N. Coy. (Scotch descent) Oct. 3, 1883, in Felchville, Vt.

Children,—Lee Felch Coy, b Sept. 2, 1886 ; Hazel Anna Coy, b Nov. 18, 1893 ; Priscilla Harriet Coy, b June 25, 1901.

Minnie Amsden Coy, granddaughter of Wm. Felch, is a "Colonial Dame", also a "Daughter of the Revolution", having at date of writing, traced out five direct lines of Revolutionary service in her ancestry.

Civil War service of Alzamon D. Amsden :—

Alzamon D. Amsden's first enlistment was under Capt. E. D. Keyes, Sept. 8, mustered Oct. 23, 1862, discharged Aug. 10, 1863, Co. H., 16th Vt. Vols. Second enlistment, Nov. 14, 1863, mustered April 17, 1864, Co. H., Regt. 17, C. W. Corey, Capt.

Lewis Hawkins.

By Carlos Hawkins.

Lewis Hawkins, son of William L. Hawkins and Anna (Townsend) his wife, born in Reading, Vt., June 23, 1798. Married, Olivia Amsden, daughter of Abel Amsden, Dec. 4, 1823. Lewis Hawkins carried on the Carding Machine Works, near the Abel Amsden residence, about the year 1826 ; and afterwards moved to Reading Centre, and kept a hotel, and also carried on the Shoe manufacturing business. From thence he moved to Hammondsville, in Reading, Vt., and bought the saw-mill of Homer Hammond, and erected a Grist Mill and Rake factory, in which he carried on the business of Milling, Rake manufacturing, and Sawing lumber for a

number of years. From thence he moved to Sherburne, Vt., and followed farming until his death, which was April 30, 1875.

Lewis Hawkins' wife died at Reading Centre, Nov. 23, A. D. 1844, aged 41 years. Of their union in marriage were born three children :—William, a son, b 1824 and d in infancy ; Carlos, a son, b 1826, and now resides in Reading, at Hammondsville ; Marcia Isabell, a daughter, b July 17, A. D. 1828 ; m Samuel G. Spaulding, who now resides in Chicago, Ill.

William Adrian Hawkins,
By Arthur H. Keyes.

William Adrian Hawkins was born Jan. 18, 1742, in Bordeaux, France. His father had shipping in Dublin, Ireland. In 1730 the British put a proscription upon Irish shipping, and his father lost his shipping by pirates, and then removed to France.

The History of Wilton, N. H. says, "William Adrian Hawkins' father was born in Dublin, Ireland, m an English woman and emigrated to Bordeaux, where a son, William Adrian, and a daughter were born, and who were brought to this country. He was reported wealthy, but lost most of his property in the wars of that period". He is supposed by some to be of English descent, by others, of Irish descent, but probably was of Irish descent.

William Adrian Hawkins, his son, enlisted in the American Army for four years at the time of the Revolution, but after serving three years in the Revolution, his family being in distressed circumstances, sickness and death having occurred, he had leave of absence to go home, and he did not have his discharge papers.

He was 1st Sergeant of Col. James Reed's regiment of N. H. troops in Capt. William Walker's Co., and was

promoted to Ensign for conduct at the battle of Bunker Hill.

It is related of him, that in the battle of Bunker Hill he fired his gun until it became too hot to hold, then wrapped his coat around it and continued firing. Carlos Hawkins of Reading has the gun he used in the battle of Bunker Hill, also his chair and Bible.

On Jan. 1, 1776, he was made 2nd Lieutenant, 2nd Continental Infantry, and on Nov. 8, 1776, was made 1st Lieutenant, 3rd N. H. Infantry, and on May 22, 1779, was commissioned Capt. of the 9th Company of the 3rd Regulars, Col. Alexander Scrammell's Regiment, and resigned July 5, 1780.

He m Abigail Keyes in 1776. She was from a Scotch Irish family, properly Scotch, and the family resided for a time in Ireland. She was b Dec. 31, 1743, d Feb. 24, 1813. He was a tailor by trade, and resided in Northboro, Mass., and in Wilton, N. H., and Reading, Vt.

William A. Hawkins was a witty man, and being called upon to testify in court, the Judge asked him his nationality ; he replied, "Your Honor, I was sired in Dublin, b in France, and reared in America, and I will leave it to the Court to decide". His children were,—

1 Abigail, b in Northboro, Mass., Aug. 17, 1767, m Davis, lived in Canada.

2 Patty, or Martha, b in Northboro, Mass., July 8, 1769, m Archelaus Putnam, Oct. 28, 1788, d in Glens Falls, in 1860.

3 Mary, b in Northboro, Mass., June 18, 1771, d Jan. 8, 1852. She m William Howard Nov. 3, 1793, and lived in Temple, N. H., and Weston, Vt.

4 William Lewis, b in Northboro, Mass., June 17, 1773, d in Reading, Vt., Nov. 26, 1859; he m Anna Townsend, Jan. 11, 1797.

5 Alice, b in Wilton, N. H., baptized Feb. 21, 1777, d aged 9 years.

6 George Washington, b May 31, 1781, in Wilton,

N. H., m Hannah Mansur, d Feb. 7, 1857.

7 Horatio Gates, b Dec. 1, 1782, in Wilton, N. H., m Polly Bates, second wife, Mrs. Louis Burgess.

8 John Sullivan, b Jan. 30, 1785, at Wilton, N. H., m Mary Morrison, d in 1870 at Macomb, Ill.

William Adrian Hawkins, the father and subject of this sketch, d in Reading Dec. 16, 1817, and he and his wife are both buried in the cemetery at Bailey's Mills, in Reading, Vt.

Hawkins' Genealogy From William Adrian Hawkins
Down.

William Lewis Hawkins, son of Wm. A. Hawkins and Abigail (Keyes) was born in Northboro, Mass., June 14, 1678, d Nov. 26, 1859. He m Anna Tounsensd, Jan. 11, 1797. She was b June 6, 1778, d Oct. 14, 1865. She was the daughter of Thomas Tounsensd. Their children were :—

Lewis Hawkins, b June 23, 1798, d April 29, 1875 ;
William A. Hawkins, b May 24, 1800, d July 7, 1869 ;
Alfred Hawkins, b Sept. 30, 1803, d Jan. 31, 1885
Isabella Hawkins, b Feb. 23, 1806, d Sept. 14, 1825 ;
Ferdinand Hawkins, b Feb. 14, 1808, d Dec. 26, 1893 ;
Horatio Hawkins, b March 3, 1810, d March 31, 1815 ;
Josiah Q. Hawkins, b March 14, 1812, d June 18, 1882.

Lewis Hawkins, m Olivia Amsden. Dec. 4, 1824 ;
she d Nov. 23, 1844.

Wm. Adrian, m Betsey Davis ; she d April 11, 187—

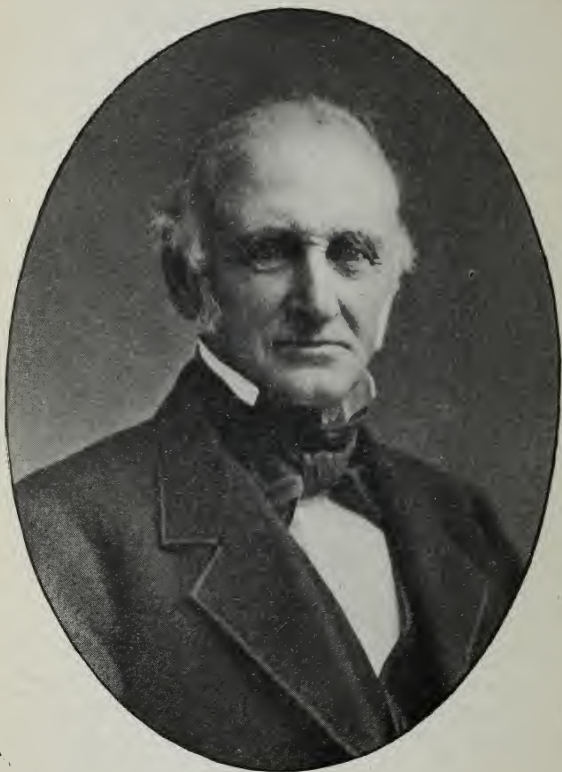
Josiah Q., m Susan Badlam, May 25. 1836 ; she d
July 10, 1879.

Ferdinand, m Charlotte Lucretia Amsden, Jan. 1,
1834 ; she d Aug. 14, 1901.

Alfred, m.

Children of Ferdinand and Charlotte L. (Amsden)
Hawkins :—

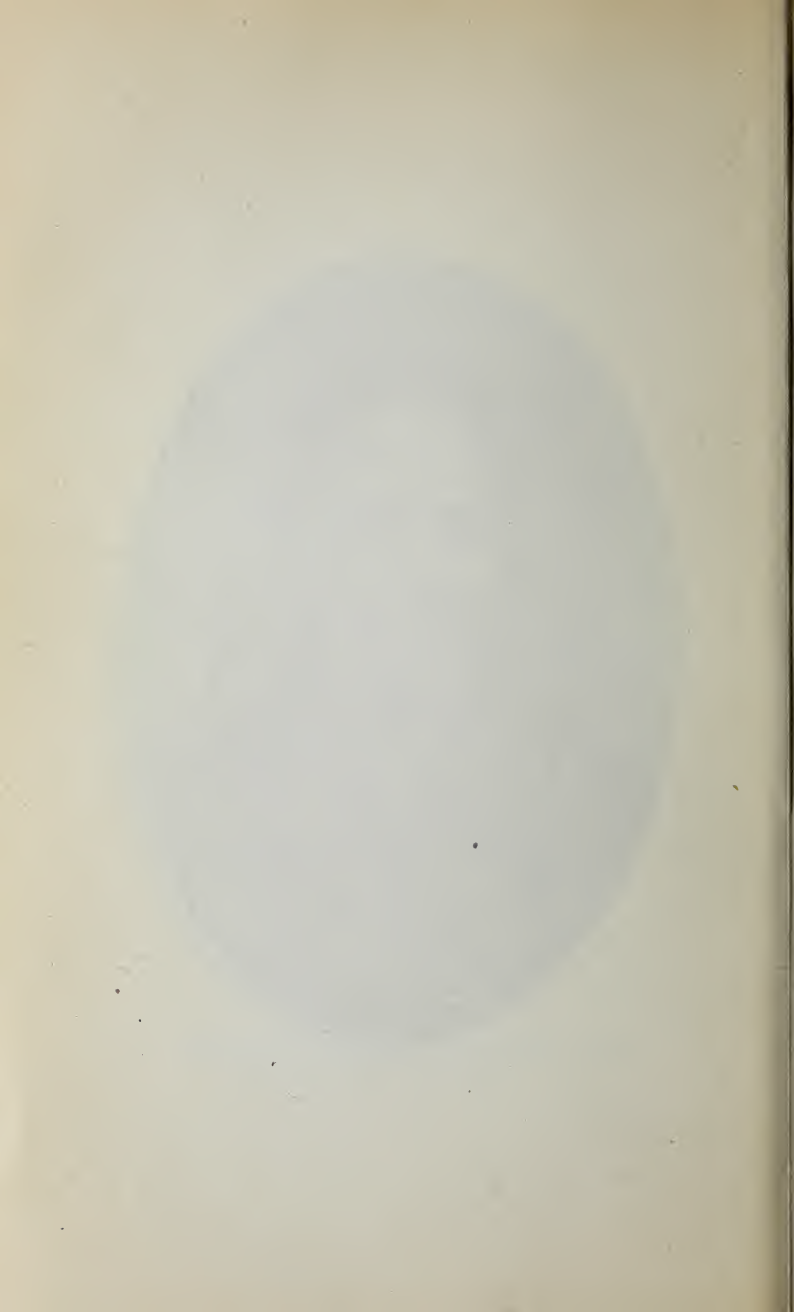
Floyd Ferdinand, b Jan. 26, 1835 ; Lorette Char-



FERDINAND HAWKINS.



MRS. CHARLOTTE (AMSDEN) HAWKINS.



lotte, b March 11, 1838; George Ostinella. b May 28, 1840; d June 25, 1896; Horatio Gates, b March 23, 1848; Budd Dallas, b April 13, 1859,—all b in Reading, Vt.

Marriages:

Floyd Ferdinand, m Laura A. Robinson, March 14, 1865; Lorette Charlotte, m Elmer Duane Keyes, Sept. 14, 1862; George Ostinella, m Sarah Luella Benjamin, Feb. 12, 1868; Horatio Gates, m Ada Jane Woodruff, March 23, 1875; Budd Dallas, m Hattie L. Kendall, Aug. 26, 1884.

Ferdinand Hawkins.

By Arthur H. Keyes.

Ferdinand Hawkins was born in Reading, Vt., Feb. 14, 1808.

His father was William Lewis Hawkins, and his mother was Anna Townsend Hawkins. He was b in the house where his grandfather, William Adrian Hawkins lived, in the west part of the town, and where he first settled when he came to Reading. His early education was obtained largely from his father, who was a pedagogue at that time. His early life was spent in Reading, with the exception of one year, (1832) when he traveled in Canada, selling goods in partnership with his brother Alfred.

He worked for Abel Amsden in his carding mill, and assisted his father. When he was a young man his father moved to Hammondsville, and conducted a hotel which burned in 1838, and he built the present hotel structure on its site. On Jan. 1, 1834, Ferdinand m Charlotte Lucretia Amsden, daughter of Abel Amsden

of Reading.

They lived during the first year of their marriage, with his father in the hotel at Hammondsville, when they bought and moved on to the farm about two miles above Felchville, where they spent a long and happy life together, residing continuously on the same farm for 58 years, when Mr. Hawkins died.

On Jan. 1, 1884, they celebrated their Golden Wedding, when many children and grandchildren were present. He was for forty years a Deputy Sheriff and Constable, in his native town; and his advanced age was the sole cause of his resigning the office, his townsmen having urged him to remain in office for several years after he had expressed his desire to be relieved of the cares of office.

He was well qualified for the office he held for so many years, being very quick to act, both in mind and body, although of slight stature. During all his term in office as sheriff he never found it necessary to carry any weapons of defense.

In politics he was a Republican. He passed his whole life (with the exception of one year in Canada) in his native town. He was an energetic and successful worker, and he received the esteem and confidence of his fellow townsmen all his life. He died Dec. 26, 1893, aged 87 years. (See page 172 of this History for the children of Ferdinand and Charlotte Hawkins).

Mrs. Charlotte Lucretia (Amsden) Hawkins.

From Vermont Standard.

Mrs. Ferdinand Hawkins was born March 20, 1814, in Reading Vt. Her maiden name was Charlotte Lucretia Amsden. She was the daughter of Abel Amsden and

Susanna (Story) Amsden. Her father was one of the pioneer settlers of Reading, having emigrated from Southboro, Mass., to Reading, when the latter town was a wilderness. She was born in one of the first houses erected in Reading on the site of the house now occupied by Merritt Amsden, and when she was two years old her father built the brick house now standing and known as the Blood place, where he kept a tavern, and in this house the first Universalist sermon in Reading was preached, and some of the earliest Masonic meetings were held here. Mrs. Hawkins attended school in Reading, Vt., and Canaan, N. H.

On Jan. 1, 1834, she married Ferdinand Hawkins of Reading, and they spent a long and happy life together of nearly sixty years on the farm where she died, she having lived continuously in the same house for nearly 68 years. Five children were born of this union ; four sons, Floyd F. Hawkins of Milford, N. H., George O. Hawkins, now deceased, formerly of Chicago, Ill., Horatio G. Hawkins of Springfield, Mass., Budd D. Hawkins of Reading, and one daughter, Mrs. E. D. Keyes of Rutland.

On Jan. 1, 1884, Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins celebrated their Golden Wedding. Mr. Hawkins died Dec. 26, 1893. Mrs. Hawkins was one of the few remaining 'real' daughters of the Revolution, her father having served four years in the Revolutionary Army. She was a member of 'Ann Story' Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, having headquarters at Rutland, and was presented with a golden spoon by the National Society of the D. A. R.

About a year ago she received and entertained at her home a delegation from the D. A. R. Chapter at Woodstock. She had a remarkably keen memory, being

able to recall, during her last years, many of the details of events in her early life, and it was a rare pleasure to hear her tell of the old-fashioned farm life customs that were in vogue 'when she was a girl'.

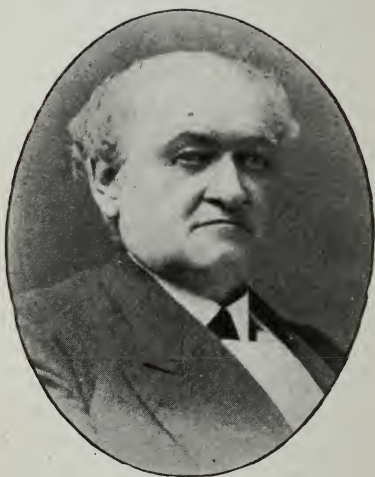
She was an untiring worker and a constant reader of current events all her life. On her 86th birthday she gave a dinner party to ten of her relatives and neighbors, preparing the entire meal herself. Her kind heart and cheerful nature made her beloved by all who knew her. Her earnest desire was to have all those about her happy, and many were the happy days spent by her children and grandchildren in her home.

The remembrance of her sunny face and pleasant words will ever be a source of fond recollection to those who were associated with her.

The funeral of Mrs. Ferdinand Hawkins was held at her late home here Aug. 17th, Rev. J. B. Reardon of Ludlow, officiating. The pall-bearers were Floyd F. Hawkins, of Milford, N. H.; Budd D. Hawkins, of Reading; Edwin E., and Arthur H. Keyes of Rutland, all sons and grandsons of the deceased.

The floral offerings were many and very beautiful. The burial was in the cemetery about a mile above Felchville, near her childhood home. The lot for this cemetery was given to the town of Reading by her father, Abel Amsden, many years ago. Besides the pall bearers above mentioned, there were present from out of town,—Mrs. E. D. Keyes, of Rutland; Mrs. Floyd Hawkins, of Milford, N. H.; Mrs. H. G. Hawkins, of Springfield, Mass.; Dr. Darwin Story, of Proctorsville; Mrs. Emma S. White, of Boston; Mrs. Chas. Amsden, of Amsden; Mr. ——— Savage, of Windsor and his brother and sister, and several others.





JOSIAH Q. HAWKINS.

Josiah Q. Hawkins,
By a Friend.

Referring to the History of the Town of Reading, Vermont, issued in 1874, the Hon. Gilbert A. Davis gives the following in his sketch of Mr. Hawkins:—

“Josiah Quincy Hawkins was born in Reading, Vermont, March 14, 1812, and was a son of W. L. Hawkins. He received an academical education, studied law with O. Hutchinson, Esq., and L. Adams, Esq. of Chester, Vermont, and was admitted to the bar at Woodstock, Vt. He commenced practice in Felchville, Vt., in 1847, and continued there until the fall of 1860 when he removed to Brandon, Vermont.”

The continuation of his life is taken up by an old friend of Mr. Hawkins', and of his two daughters Mrs. Juliet E. Dike (wife of Nathaniel Dike of Auburndale, Mass.), and Miss Mary A. Hawkins. They are the only living children of Mr. Josiah Quincy Hawkins, and his wife, Susan M., who died in Brandon, Vt., on July 16, 1879. Mr. Hawkins was admitted to the Rutland County bar and practised at every term of court from 1860 to 1882, and while numerous public offices were offered him, he found time only for his chosen profession. Mr. Hawkins was a kind husband, an indulgent father, and a gentleman of courteous and gracious bearing, and a true and loyal son of Vermont. The writer remembers with great respect this genial man in his hospitable home. He was a man of character and is remembered by his children and friends with great love and affection. He died suddenly in Brandon, Vermont, on June 18, 1882, and was buried beside his wife in Chester, Vermont. He married Susan M. Badlam of Chester.

Mr. Hawkins was a Democrat in his political belief. He was one of the selectmen of Reading in 1858 and 1859, and represented the town in the Vt. Legislature at the session of 1858.

He had a large practise as a lawyer in the prosecution of claims for pensions under the laws of the United States.

Elmer Duane Keyes,
By A. H. Keyes.

Elmer Duane Keyes was the son of Marvin and Lucinda (Fulham) Robinson.

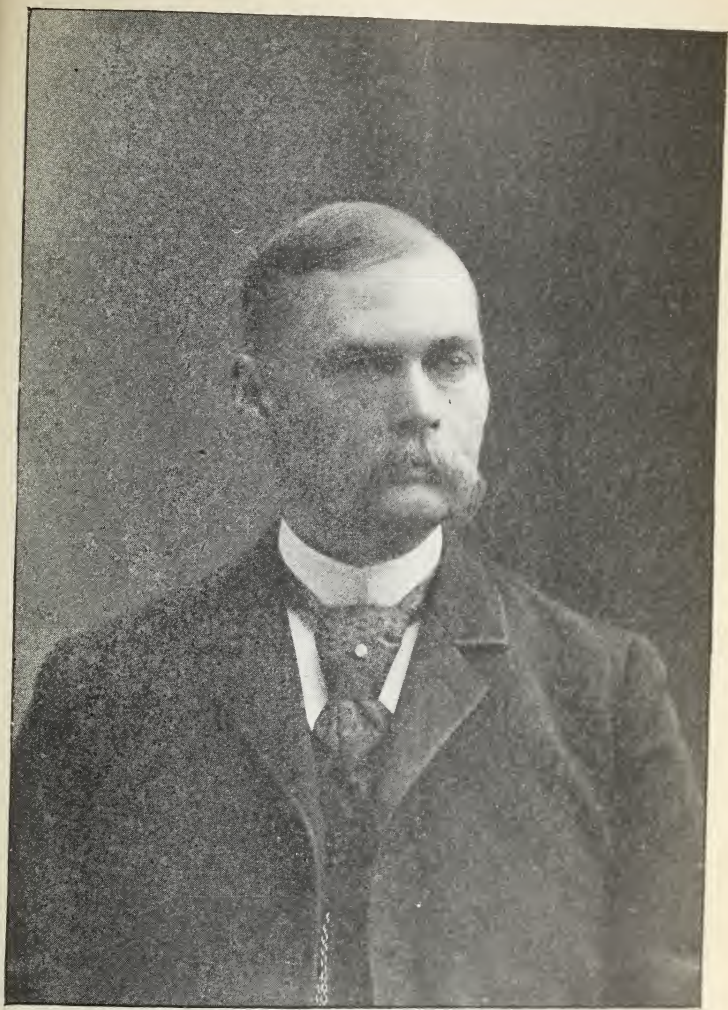
When he was two years old his mother died, and he was adopted by Washington Keyes and his wife Eliza (Robinson) Keyes, and he assumed the name of Keyes. Washington Keyes' wife was a sister of his father.

He died at his residence on Grove street, Rutland, Vt., Dec. 4, 1893, after a brief but painful illness.

Mr. Keyes was born at South Reading, Vt., July 15, 1838. He worked on the farm where his adopted parents lived until the age of 21, teaching school during five winter seasons.

Early in the war he entered the service as a lieutenant in Company H of Col. Veazey's regiment, the 16th Vermont volunteers. Dec. 31, 1862, he was promoted to the captaincy of his company and occupied that position until the end of his term of enlistment. His company, with its regiment, bore a very prominent part in the battle of Gettysburg, in repulsing Pickett's charge.

After leaving the army, Mr. Keyes engaged in business in Felchville, with W. P. Chamberlain, where he remained until September, 1870, when he came to Rutland. Oct. 1, of the same year he bought the retail grocery business of S. F. Paige, and took into partnership, N. R. Bardy, who had been the head clerk in Mr. Paige's store. This partnership continued until June 1, 1883, when Mr. Bardy retired. The business had assumed very large proportions during these years. The wholesale branch had been established, and the last year of



ELMER D. KEYES.



the original partnership had reached a volume of over \$600,000 yearly.

Upon the retirement of Mr. Bardy, Mr. Keyes associated with himself C. O. Perkins, a traveling representative of the firm, who has, for the past few years, been one of the active managing heads of the house. In June, 1885, Erwin E. Keyes, the elder son of the head of the firm, was taken into partnership.

The business has always been conducted in the brick building on Evelyn street, where it was established nearly a quarter of a century ago. Mr. Keyes purchased half of the block soon after beginning business in Rutland, and a few years later secured the remainder of the building. He gradually withdrew from the active management of the Rutland business, soon after his son entered the firm, and for the last few years of his life, devoted his time largely to real estate and other financial interests in the West.

Mr. Keyes married in 1862, Lorette Charlotte Hawkins, of Reading. Three children were born to them, of whom two sons, Erwin E. Keyes and Arthur H. Keyes, together with Mrs. Keyes, survive him. Mr. Keyes left two brothers, W. F., and Charles Robinson, and a married sister, all of whom reside in Boston.

He has never sought office, but served as colonel on the staff of Gov. Washburn. At the time of his death he was director of the Baxter National bank, of the Howe Scale Co., and of the People's Gas company, vice president of the Bank of Volga, South Dakota, vice president of the Volga Equitable Loan and Trust company, and a director in several other financial institutions in various parts of the West.

Mr. Keyes was one of five gentlemen who bid off the plant of the Howe Scale Co., at public auction in 1886, and thus prevented the works from being purchased by the Fairbanks Scale Co., in which case they would probably have been removed from Rutland to St. Johnsbury,

Vermont.

Mr. Keyes had been a sufferer from chronic bronchitis and asthmatic troubles for nearly 15 years, and during the last five years of his life, had several severe attacks of illness. He returned from a six weeks' business trip about a month before he died, Mrs. Keyes joining him on the homeward journey at Chicago. During this trip he drove for 34 miles over a South Dakota prairie, and contracted a cold from the effects of which he never recovered. His chronic affections developed emphysema, which eventually caused his death. He was a Mason and was a faithful communicant of Trinity Episcopal church.

Mr. Keyes was typical of New England thrift and integrity. From the position he occupied in his native village, his business ability and personal integrity raised him to that of the head of the largest firm in the wholesale grocery business in the State of Vermont. As a business man he occupied a unique position. His untiring energy and industry were fruitful with the best results, and he commanded, to an unusual extent, the respect and confidence of all who were in any way associated with him. In his home life he was ever a thoughtful and loving husband and parent, and a most genial entertainer of the many he delighted to call friends.

In speaking of his death, Mr. Bardy, his former partner, paid a warm tribute to his personal character and business ability. "Mr. Keyes was," he said, "a man of the most thorough and painstaking instincts. His word was always regarded as the equivalent of his name, and he never engaged in any undertaking without entering into a careful and thoughtful examination of its minutest details.

"The growth of our business under his direction was phenomenal. The business was confined entirely to the retail branch until a relative of Mr. Keyes, a Chicago tobacco manufacturer, sent to us a small quan-

tity of fine cut tobacco, and appointed the firm his representative in this section. Mr. Keyes was going over to the other side of the mountain, and as an experiment took three boxes with him. He sold ten kegs of it before he returned, and that was the beginning of the present enormous business.

“Mr. Keyes was prompt and active in his business life, never wasting words when time was more valuable than speech, but at home or in society he was ever genial.”

CHAPTER XVI.

Biographical and Family Sketches Continued.

- (1) Ebenezer Abbott and Family ; (2) Rev. George W. Bailey ; (3) Levi Bailey and His Descendants ;
(4) Benjamin Buck ; (5) Benoni Buck ;
(6) J. L. Buck, and (7) Bixby Family.
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Ebenezer Abbott, the son of Asa and (McCollom) Abbott, was b Nov. 15, 1797, in Ludlow, on the Green Mt.

He came to Reading in 1809, and served an apprenticeship as a clothier with Levi Bailey. He m Elsie Annis, of Hartland, Vt. Their only child was William M. C. Abbott, who was b in Randolph, Vt., Sept. 16, 1832. He returned to Reading in 1842, and tended grist mill for Levi Bailey, at Bailey's Mills, for about two years, and then became a farmer. He d May 22, 1875, at Reading, Vt. He was a Universalist in his religious belief. His wife d April 11, 1862.

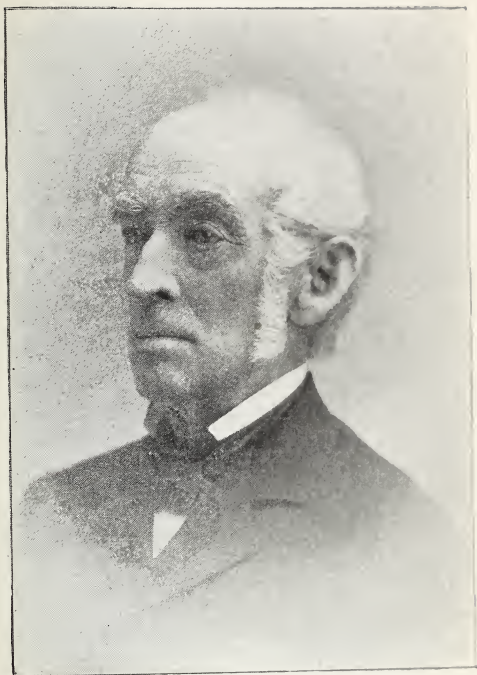
Wm. M. C. Abbott is still a resident of Reading. He was lister in 1880-1, and 1881-2, and 1896. He m Amelia M. Parkhurst, of Cavendish, Jan. 5, 1865. She d Dec. 31, 1890, at Reading.

Rev. George W. Bailey.

(The following article was prepared by Mr. Bailey, at the request of the editor.)

I was b at Weare, N. H., June 19, 1816.

My parents' names were, Bradbury and Agnes (Marshall) Bailey. My education was obtained in common schools, and the following academies,—Cavendish, in the year of '34, Chester, in '35, and in the Scientific



REV. G. W. BAILEY.



and Military academy at Unity, N. H., in the years of '36, '37, and '38, then very celebrated, under the control of A. A. Miner, afterward President of Tuft's college, and a popular clergyman in Boston. I never attended any Theological school. What little I am, aside from what nature gave me, I have acquired by my own personal efforts.

There were no preachers of other denominations living at Felchville when I lived there.

In the spring of 1840, I received a letter from Luther Kendall, Esq., asking me to come to Felchville and preach on the first Sunday in May. I complied with his request, and the result was, I engaged to go there, and preach in Reading, (Felchville, Middle of the Town, and South Reading,) one-half of the time, for the enormous salary of \$7. a Sabbath. I remained there until the first of March, 1841, when I was called to Springfield. I taught the Felchville village school during the winters of '40 and '41. After removing to Springfield, I supplied for the Universalists in Reading, one Sabbath in a month during the year of 1841. In June, 1840, I received the Fellowship of the Universalist denomination in New Hampshire, and was ordained the 12th of Nov., of the same year, in Felchville, in the church which was afterward burned. At that time, Rev. S. C. Loveland was living in Reading, and he, with Rev. Warren Skinner, of Cavendish, and Rev. Russell Streeter, of Woodstock, performed the principal parts at my ordination, Rev. Warren Skinner preaching the sermon.

Since taking up my permanent abode in Springfield, I supplied the Universalist parish at Felchville, during the year of 1879, one Sabbath in a month.

My memory shows me distinctly the appearance of the old church at the Middle of the Town, which was built in the cold year of 1816. The pulpit, and platform on which it stood, had taken a leaning position, having become detached from the wall behind, and stood at an

angle of several degrees towards the people ; so that I felt, while occupying the sacred place, in danger of being landed among the pews. ; But no such accident ever occurred.

I have lived to fill several pastorates and ministerial positions from that day to this, viz:—six years in Springfield, one year in Richmond, Va., three years in Randolph, Vt., fifteen years in Lebanon, N. H., and ten years in Morrisville, Vt. For the last twenty-five years I have labored only as a supply for different parishes, having in all, delivered some over 4000 sermons and lectures, attended 700 funerals, and solemnized 372 marriages.

In public life, I have served seventeen years as superintendent of schools, two years a member of the N. H. legislature, and also two years in the same capacity in Vt. In 1865, the legislature appointed as a committee of location of what is now the Goddard seminary, in Barre, the following:—Rev. A. A. Miner, of Boston, ex-Gov. Trask, of Springfield, Mass., and Rev. G. W. Bailey, of Lebanon, N. H.

Rev. Solomon Laws, a graduate of Dartmouth college, was my predecessor at Felchville, and, I believe, Rev. Luther Rice, now of Watertown, N. Y., was my successor.

The Bailey Family, and Bailey's Mills,
By Charles F. Bailey.

To all residents of Reading, one of the old landmarks is that cluster of buildings in the valley on the banks of Mill Brook, known as Bailey's Mills.

Here has been activity, and what was once the centre of a prosperous neighborhood, now shows decay and is growing old and unless something is done to stay the hand of time, nothing but ruins will mark the place which has been the scene of so much activity.

Levi Bailey the founder and builder of this place was born February 5, 1766, and was the son of Samuel and Hannah Bailey, his father having been killed at the battle of Bunker Hill. All that I know of his early history is that he lived in Mass., until about 1785, when he came to Reading, and purchased land that is a part of the farm now owned and occupied by H. S. Fay, and here as a young man in the twenties, began his labors in a new country.

He first cleared the land and then erected buildings suitable to the times, and as his means increased purchased more land and branched out in various lines.

February 1, 1791 he was married to Hannah Bailey, and they started house keeping in their house on the place above described, and here and in the new neighborhood they reared a large family, which have scattered, now only one survivor remains, Mrs. Rhoda Warren, living in Weathersfield, Vt., at the advanced age of 96 years.

From what I have learned from tradition and from the works that remain, he must have been a man of strong personal character, and accomplished whatever he undertook.

He purchased the property at Bailey's Mills at different times and from different persons, during the last years of the eighteenth, and the first years of the nineteenth centuries.

From what I can remember of tradition at the time of his first purchase, which was a half interest in the water power, there had been some improvements made upon the same, a dam had been built, and a saw mill erected.

He soon, however, had full control of the same, and in modern terms, started out to boom the place and develop its resources. This saw mill was followed by a grist mill, the grist mill by clothiers' works, and then a carding mill, one of the first to be started in the state, and these

were in the due time followed up by a linseed oil mill, a full and complete woolen mill for the manufacture of woolen cloth, a starch mill, blacksmith shop, and store. These were all run at different times and with varying fortunes at the place from about 1800, up to his death in 1850; and he owned and managed all of these, with perhaps the exception of the store which I don't think he owned, only owning the building and renting the same. During the time in addition to the business carried on at Bailey's Mills, he was extensively engaged in farming, owning and farming several hundred acres of land, situated in Reading, and for a number of years was a member of the firm of Bailey & Gilson, who conducted a general store at the Middle of the Town, but in this business he only furnished capital.

He was an extensive buyer of stock, and as was the custom then, drove the same to the Brighton market.

During the busy part of his life, from 1800 to 1840, he carried on the largest business of any man in Reading, and was a considerable portion of the time considered the wealthiest man in Reading.

He built a large number of buildings at Bailey's Mills, upon the old farm, and upon other property owned by him, some of which now remain — particularly the brick house and factory building at Bailey's Mills; others have been torn down, or burned, and a part fallen by the ravages of time.

He met many losses by fire and flood. I have been told by my grandfather, that his losses by fire and flood amounted to over \$13,000, and this without insurance, was a total loss to him.

Hannah, his wife, d June 29, 1822, aged 58 years. Levi Bailey died at his home at Bailey's Mills, October 21, 1850, aged about 85 years.

The following are the names and date of birth of the children that grew to maturity, two having died in infancy,—

Hannah b Dec. 18, 1791; Samuel b Jan. 14, 1794; Betsey b Aug. 23, 1795; Levi b Feb. 15, 1797; Thusa b May 13, 1799; Sarah b Aug. 28, 1800; Rosamond b June 8, 1804; Rhoda b Jan. 16, 1806; Plooma b Mar. 25, 1808, Kendall b March 17, 1810.

All of the children with the exception of Rosamond who died when she was about 21 years, lived to advanced age, all but one living past the age of three score years and ten, two lived to be over seventy, three over eighty and three over ninety, with the survivor now living at the advanced age of 96 years.

Hannah m Daniel Forbush and resided in Reading most of her life. Samuel lived at the old place and will have notice later.

Betsey m Jephtha Shedd Nov. 17, 1817, and lived at the Shedd place. They had two children, Fredrick b May 24, 1820; who m Lovira Bailey; Albina b May, 16, 1822, m George Bailey; Jephtha Shedd d July 21, 1831; Betsey Shedd, in 1854, m Joseph Shedd, she d at Bailey's Mills in 1883; Levi m Lucinda Johnson, removed to Missouri, from there to Iowa, where he d at the advanced age of 92 years. He left several children and grand children; Thusa m Oliver Holmes, removed to Missouri, d aged 73 years; left several children and grandchildren; Sarah m Shubal C. Shedd, and d aged 85 years; Rhoda m Asahel W. Warren, and lives at Weathersfield, Vt. Has two children living,—James residing in Stanislaus County, Cal., and Asahel B., residing at Ascutneyville, Vt., and several grandchildren; Plooma m Benjamin Kinball, removed to Missouri, and d aged over 80 years; Kendall m Emily Sutton, removed to Missouri, and d aged about 78 years.

As Samuel lived the most of his life at Reading, it is important that a sketch of his life should be given here. Born in Reading, Jan. 14, 1794, he lived at home and worked at the various enterprises his father had on hand, until Dec. 31, 1819, when he m Dolly Newton, and

started a home of his own.

He still continued to be engaged with his father in his various manufacturing enterprises up to the time of his father's death.

He developed a large amount of mechanical ingenuity, and could work with almost any kind of a tool. He also understood blacksmithing and all the various industries carried on at that time at Bailey's Mills, and has done all the different work required in these various occupations. It was a common saying in Reading if anything was broken, 'take it to Uncle Sam, and he can fix it if anybody can'.

After the death of his father he purchased the Bailey's Mills property, and soon after sold an undivided two-thirds interest in the water power and factory to his son George and Oliver Bailey, of South Woodstock, who, about 1854, went into the business of manufacturing stocking yarn, and a general store under the firm name of O. S. & G. Bailey, which firm continued until the death of Oliver Bailey in 1856, when his interest was bought up and the business continued under the firm name of S. & G. Bailey, which firm did business of various kinds,—general store, carding mill, grist mill, and farming, up to 1873, when he gave up all interest in the various lines of business.

During the last twenty-five years of his life, he spent much of his time in his shop, doing various jobs of repairs for himself and neighbors, experimenting with various inventions, and making different articles of wood or iron as his fancy dictated, until his failing faculties would not permit him to work further. During the last five years of his life he lived in Iowa and Dakota, and d at the residence of his son Ransom, near Grundy Center, Iowa, February 14, 1891, at the ripe age of ninety-seven years, and one month. His wife, Dolly, d at Reading, July 28, 1848.

He afterwards m Achsah Bruce Wheeler, who d at

Reading, Vt. Nine children were b to Samuel and Dolly Bailey ; their names and dates of birth are as follows,—

Orwell, b Nov. 1, 1820 ; George, b June 16, 1822 ; Lovira, b Oct. 18, 1825 ; Ransom, b Feb. 24, 1828 ; Samuel, b March 14, 1830 ; Sarah, b Jan. 5, 1835 ; Levi, b Dec. 12, 1837 ; Mary, b Apr. 26, 1842 ; Charles, b Oct. 16, 1846.

Orwell went to Illinois, afterwards to Iowa, where he now resides, at Holland. He has been extensively engaged in farming, and dealing in real estate, at which he became wealthy. He has now retired from active business. He m Maria Rogers, and five children were b, of which four survive,—

Charles, Frank, George, and Eugene. All are engaged in farming and dealing in real estate, and all are married.

Lovira m Frederick Shedd, and resided at Bailey's Mills, and on the Shedd Place, and d March ———, 1889, aged 63 years.

Ransom went to Illinois, from there to Iowa, and now resides at Cedar Falls, Iowa, is engaged in farming and dealing in real estate, and has amassed a fine property. He m Mary Dyer, and they have two children, James Levi, and Samuel Orwell, who reside at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and are engaged in general hardware and plumbing.

Samuel went to Illinois, then to Kansas, and now resides at Wichita, Kansas ; m Relief Philbrick. They have five children, viz,—George S., Emma, Ward, Fred, and Cora.

Sarah went to Illinois, and now resides at Morrison, Iowa, m Truman Pattee. The following children were b unto them,—

Lovira, Martin, and Fred.

Levi d at Baileyville, Illinois, Jan. 31, 1866.

Mary m Henry N. Bryant, d May ———, 1869, leaving one child.

Jennie, who m Eugene Bailey, resides near Grandy Center, Iowa.

Charles d at Reading, July 25, 1855.

George Bailey m Albina Shedd, June 25, 1856, and started house keeping at Bailey's Mills, where he now resides. He has been engaged in various enterprises at Bailey's Mills all his life, as a member of the firm of S. and G. Bailey, and also since 1873 in running a carding mill and grist mill up to 1885, when the dam was destroyed, and no business has been done since that time in the old mill. He has also been engaged in farming. He is now the oldest resident in that part of the town, where he has spent a useful life, always ready to accommodate any one in need or trouble, and is unusually respected for his upright dealings and strict honesty.

Albina Shedd, his wife, d Jan. 7, 1898, aged 75 years. Their children are,—

Charles F., b July 27, 1857, and Abbie S., b Nov. 7, 1862.

Abbie S. Bailey m John P. Barnes, and now resides at Felchville, Vt.

A sketch of Charles F. Bailey, prepared by the editor, will be found under the head of Attorneys and College Graduates.

Benjamin Buck's Genealogy.

I Benjamin Buck was b in Killingly, Conn., May 21, 1768. He m Ellen Leavens, Nov. 25, 1790. She was b March 3, 1767; their people came to Reading, and located on Caper Hill, on the farm occupied by them through life, and by his son, Dexter Buck, until his death. Benjamin Buck d at Reading Oct. 22, 1857. His wife Ellen, d at Reading Feb. 23, 1851. Their children were,—

- II (1) Benjamin Buck, Jr., b Nov. 10, 1791, d June 29, 1880. He m Charlotte Bragg June 7, 1819, and had three children.
- II (2) Martha Buck, b July 16, 1794, d Feb. 9, 1845, in West Windsor. She m Joseph Bliss, March 25, 1830. They had five children.
- II (3) Hannah Buck, b Dec. 15, 1796, d April 8, 1858, unmarried.
- II (4) Infant son, b March 9, 1799, d March 12, 1799.
- II (5) Ellen Buck, b Nov. 6, 1802, d Feb. 24, 1865, unmarried.
- II (6) Rufus Buck, b June 2, 1805, d Oct. 22, 1891, at South Reading, m Sophia Fullam Oct. 22, 1835. They had four children.
- II (7) Dexter Buck, b May 26, 1810, d Aug. 9, 1896, m June 1, 1840, to Sarah Jane Davis, b March 15, 1813, in Compton, P. Q., d June 24, 1900, at Reading.
- II (8) Caroline Buck, b May 22, 1812, d June 12, 1881. She m Rufus Stearns Dec. 4, 1833. They had three children.
- Children of Dexter and Sarah J. Buck,—
- III (1) Ambrose Dexter Buck, b June 19, 1843, d at Lebanon, N. H., Sept. 24, 1899, was a member of Co. A., 12th regt., Vt. Vol., m Estella Emogene Perkins, of West Windsor, b Sept. 1, 1845, daughter of Solomon and Rhoda Story Perkins.
- III (2) Marilla Sophronia, b June 15, 1845, in Reading, m Nov. 18, 1869, to Norman Eugene Elliot Perkins, b Oct. 28, 1841, in West Windsor, son of Moses and Clarissa Washburn Perkins. He was Sergt. of Co. A., 12th regt., Vt. Vol., now resides at Felchville, and is Justice of the Peace, and

a miller.

- III (3) Effie Sarah, b June 8, 1847, at Reading, m Darwin Elber Washburn, Jan. 1, 1873. He was b Oct. 31, 1844, son of Samuel and Sarah Jewel Washburn. He resides at Felchville, is a tinsmith and undertaker, has been Justice of the Peace and Selectman, and served in Co. H., 7th regt., Vt., Vol.
Children of N. E. E. and Marilla S. Perkins,—
- IV (1) Fred Valentine, b Feb. 14, 1874, in West Windsor, m Nellie Edna Graham, of Ludlow, June 13, 1900. He is of the firm of Maloney & Perkins, merchants in Cavendish, Vt.
- IV (2) Lilla Effie, b Jan. 5, 1877, at Reading, and is a milliner in Felchville.
Children of Ambrose and Estella Buck,—
- IV (1) Karl Arthur b March 10, 1871, d May 11, 1890.
- IV (2) Ned Carroll b March 16, 1874, m Emogene S. Buck Aug. 9, 1899. Resides at Randolph, Vt., and is a printer.
- IV (3) Guy Ambrose b June 2, 1876, resides at Lebanon, N. H., and is a druggist.
- IV (4) Fred Eugene b Aug. 2, 1878, resides at Lebanon, N. H., and is a miller. He m Annie Hatton April 30, 1902.
- IV (5) Frank Wait b June 1, 1880, d June 4, 1880.
- IV (6) Floyd Dexter b June 1, 1880, d June 12, 1880.

Hon. Benoni Buck,
By Mrs. Chas. M. Keyes.

The late Hon. Benoni Buck was born Oct. 24, 1799 in

the south west part of Reading, on the farm now owned or controlled by Hon. G. A. Davis, nearly one half mile north of what is still known as the "Old Sawyer Stand". He was one of five brothers, all of whom lived to ages ranging from 75 to 92 years. He only received a common school education, but was a thoroughly good scholar as far as he went, and at an early age commenced teaching school winters, and working on the farm the rest of the year. He was an exceptionally fine mathematician, and used to have difficult problems sent him, sometimes by persons whom he never saw, but never one that he failed to solve. Was very fond of reading, and kept himself well posted with the important questions of his time. When at the age of 25 years, his father having died, and his older brothers having left home, he m Candace, daughter of Dea. Aaron Goddard, and settled on the home farm, where he soon built a new brick house, very near the old one in which he was born, and which is still standing, and being occupied. There his three children were brought up, attending school in the same old school house where he used to go. He greatly valued an education and was able to give them much greater advantages than he himself had enjoyed.

He was possessed of a remarkably kind and affectionate nature; always ready to lend a helping hand to all with whom he came in contact. Generous, hospitable, charitable, interested in every good cause, and of strictly temperate habits. He was "Justice of the Peace" and "Notary Public" many years, represented the town two years, 1840 and 1841, and was member of the senate two years, 1852-'3, always serving his constituents in an acceptable manner.

Mr Buck was uniformly dignified and polite in his manner, truly an "old school gentleman."

Was very fond of children; took great interest in boys, especially, and usually had one or more in his family, besides his own, making them a home sometimes

for months, and sometimes years as the case might be.

Of these, one was a little six-year old son of a poor widow who was struggling hard to support three little ones. (The father was English and the mother Irish.) This little boy (Isaac Thornton) was an exceedingly bright and interesting child, of whom the whole family soon became very fond, and wanted to keep him as their own. To this the mother would not consent, but would permit him to be kept for an indefinite length of time. The result was he was kept, taken care of and sent to school till about 16 years old, never once wishing to go back to his former home.

He was a very smart, promising boy, easy to learn, fond of books and making the best of the opportunities afforded. He, too, attended school in the same old school house until the Buck family left the old farm and removed to Ludlow, where he had the benefit of a better school for a time, and from there went to Springfield, Vt., to live with Mr. Buck's daughter (Mrs. C. M. Keyes), and there his school days ended. Being now not quite 17 years old, his mother having found a home with a Catholic priest in Middlebury, Vt., came to Springfield and claimed her boy, took him away from his home and those most dear to him, and at once began to have him trained for the priest-hood. To this ordeal the boy would never submit, and soon left his mother without her knowledge, and returned to his old home with the determination to stay. But much to his sorrow, and that of the family, the mother came a second time, and again he was obliged to go, and again the priest went on with the training. The boy still rebelled in his inmost heart, and left them in the same way as before, went directly to Charlestown, Mass., and enlisted in the navy, immediately informing the family that as he could no longer be permitted to live with them, he had resolved to take himself out of his mother's reach, and was soon to go on board the United States warship, "Kearsarge."

The following is a copy of the obituary taken from a Washington paper, giving a little account of his career from that time till his death in 1889.

“Isaac Thornton, Assistant Chief of the Assessment Division, Internal Revenue Bureau, Treasury Department, died April 6, at his home in Washington, D. C. He enlisted in the navy at the age of 17, and was Sergeant of Marines on board the *Kearsarge*, when she sunk the *Alabama*. After leaving the service he located in Washington, and through the influence of Judge Poland, secured a position in the United States Arsenal, which he held for about six months. Then being desirous of a broader field of advancement, was transferred to the Loan Division Secretary's office, Treasury Department, as Messenger; from which he advanced upon merit, step by step, through the several grades of clerkship, to Assistant Chief, and finally to Chief of Division.

He was twice appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury, to go to London, Eng., on the United States syndicate in charge of government bonds, and while so acting in 1876, by an act of Congress, made in a line of economy, the divisions of Loan & Currency were consolidated into one. Upon his return, the Secretary appointed him Assistant Chief of the Assessment Division, Internal Revenue Bureau, which he held until relieved by death. Mr. Thornton, through his kind and courteous manner had become a general favorite in the department. He was a man of strict integrity, a true Christian, a kind father and loving husband. He left a wife and two children to mourn his loss”. Although Isaac Thornton was not born in the Town of Reading, yet several years in which he was being brought up, and while his character was being formed, and his habits fixed, were spent there; and as long as he lived he occasionally came back to visit his boyhood's home, remembering and acknowledging with gratitude how much of his success in life was due to the care, educa-

tion, and influence of those whom he greatly loved and honored, while they in turn were happy to have had some part in sending out one who proved himself to be so worthy.

Mr. Buck after the death of his wife, which occurred in the year 1865, together with his unmarried daughter, Laura Howe, removed to Springfield, Vt., where in the family of his eldest daughter they spent the remaining years of thier lives. He died in 1879, leaving to his children and numerous friends the comforting assurance that the world had been made better by his having lived in it.

Laura Howe, died in 1902, at the age of 66, beloved for her sterling worth, and mourned by a large circle of friends.

Hon. John L. Buck.

The Hon. John L. Buck d at Lockport. N. Y., Feb. 27, 1881. He was b at Reading, Vt., Jan. 1, 1802. Receiving an academic education, he studied law with the late Judge Prentiss at Montpelier, and began the practice of the law in 1826, at Northfield, having the same year m Miss Mary N. Hildreth who d in 1864. He had served in the Vermont legislature, as State's Attorney, and held other positions of trust in Vermont.

In 1850 he received the honorary degree of A. M., from the University of Vermont. He went to Lockport in 1851, and has since resided there. Very soon after going to Lockport he was chosen district attorney ; and he was for a long period of years a member of the board of education, a portion of the time serving as its president, and for a period of something like twenty years held the office of United States commissioner. The Lockport Union says of Mr. Buck : He was a Christian without guile, a man who typified nature's nobility, one of the few examples, while he lived among us, of the 'old school of gentlemen,' of that grace, dignity, and honor of character, which ever command the highest esteem.

CHAPTER XVII.

Biographical and Family Sketches, Continued.

Nedabiah Cady and his Descendants ; Frank H. Clark ;
Lorenzo G. Coolidge, and Family.

Nedabiah Cady, one of the early settlers of Reading, was b Dec. 7, 1751, in Killingly, Conn. (See Vol. I, p 57.)

Mary Buck, his wife, was b Sept. 28, 1760, d Aug. 17, 1798, m Mr. Cady May 1, 1780.

Their children were,—

Selah b Oct. 21, 1781, m Asa Morse, Dec. 4, 1799 ; Polly b Jan. 25, 1784, m David Pratt, June, 1802 ; Nedabiah Jr., b May 19, 1786, m Lydia Hubbard, July, 1803 ; Patty b Aug. 8, 1788, d Aug. 26, 1798 ; Elizabeth b Dec. 21, 1790, m David Day ; Susannah b Oct. 8, 1793, m Benoni Vaughan, March 1816, d Oct. 13, 1884 ; Lucia b July 19, 1795, m Wm. Russell, May, 1816 ; Morris b Aug. 3, 1798 ; Sarah Washburn b Jan. 13, 1766, second wife of Nedabiah Cady, m Nov. 4, 1799. Their children were,—

Sally b July 30, 1800, m Robert Abbott May 5, 1822 ; Jefferson b July 10, 1802, m Fanny Bowman, Oct. 11, 1827 ; Sullivan b Sept. 5, 1805, m Sophronia Morgan, April 20, 1837 ; Grace W., b June 4, 1807, m Oliver Walker, March 2, 1837 ; Livonia b March 26, 1809, d Aug. 14, 1809.

Chas. N. Cady has in his possession a book published in Boston, N. E., 1732, by S. Kneeland & T. Green, for D. Henchman, at the corner shop, south side of the town house, and T. Hancock at the Bible & Three Crowns in Ann street, entitled,—“The Vade Mecum for America ; or, a companion to Traders & Travellers”.

containing among other things,—

I The names of the Towns and Counties in the several Provinces and Colonies of New England, New York, and the Jersies; as also, the several Counties in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia; Together with the Time of the Setting of their Courts.

Turning to page 176 we find the following,—

II In the Province of New Hampshire, 13 towns are named.

“N. B. This Province being small, is not divided into Counties.”

—
Frank H. Clark.
—

Frank H. Clark was born in Felchville, Vt., Aug. 13, 1860, the son of George M. and Lucinda A. (Felch) Clark. Attended the village schools, Dean Academy, Franklin, Mass., and was graduated from G. M. P. Academy, South Woodstock, Vt., in the class of 1880. Studied law with Hon. Gilbert Asa Davis at Felchville; attended the Law Department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor for two years, graduating in 1884, with the degree of L.L.B. Was admitted to practice at the Windsor County Bar the same year, and was located at Felchville, for three years. In 1887, went to New England City, North Dakota, with a party of Colonists, staying there nearly three years, and holding the office of Postmaster of that place under President Cleveland for some time. He returned to Vermont in 1890, and again took up the law.

In 1894 Mr. Clark was appointed Deputy Collector and Inspector of Customs under Collector Smalley and was assigned to duty at Newport, Vt. He held this office four years, afterwards going into the newspaper business there, editing the Newport Independent for nearly two years. Since that time he has been in the insurance business in Holyoke, Mass., and Windsor,

Vt. He is now in the law business again in Windsor, being connected with Mr. Davis' Law Office. Mr. Clark was in June 20, 1894, to Miss Rose Hickson, of Windsor. They have two little girls, Katherine b Oct. 8, 1895, at Newport, Vt., and Margaret E., b July 24, 1899, at Windsor. In politics Mr. Clark has always been a Democrat and has been honored by his party, with nominations for town and county offices.

Lorenzo G. Coolidge.

Mr. Coolidge d at Reading, Jan. 12, 1896, aged 68 years and four months. He was a native of Plymouth, b Sept. 13, 1828, and was well known throughout Windsor County, of which he was a life long resident.

On Sept. 17, 1848, he married Miss Nancy Crossman of Chester who survived him one year. Eight children were the result of this union, all are living, except one. They are Orrin Coolidge and Mrs. Byron Bingham of this place; Edgar Coolidge, chief of police of Gardner, Mass., H. O. Coolidge of Brattleboro, O. H. Coolidge, Miss Belle Coolidge and A. G. Coolidge, of Rutland, and Mrs. Kellinberger of California. The summer of '95 Mr. and Mrs. Coolidge had a family reunion. when all their descendants and their families, with the exception of two grandchildren and a son-in-law, were present, numbering in all, twenty-five persons. Mr. Coolidge served in the Civil war, enlisted in the 16th Regiment, Vermont Volunteers. He had held nearly, if not quite all town offices and was deputy sheriff of Windsor County for eighteen or twenty years, being twice offered the position of high sheriff, but refused it. About 1871 he came to Felchville and drove stage from Felchville to Windsor, also purchasing the hotel. He afterwards removed to Mt. Moses and then to Plymouth. About 1886 he returned to Felchville where he has since resided. The funeral services, which were largely attended were held at the

Universalist church, Jan. 13, Rev. Mr. Towsley of Rutland officiating. The Henry Giddings Post, G. A. R. of which he was a prominent member held a short service at the grave, the remains being borne to their last resting place by the sons. Mr. Coolidge was always greatly interested in everything pertaining to the G. A. R. and both he and Mrs. Coolidge were ever kind and generous to the sick and suffering.

Nancy L. Crossman, his wife, was b in Andover, Vt., April 3, 1826, and d in Rutland, Vt., Jan. 16, 1897. Their children were,—Orrin Gilbert b April 17, 1850, in Plymouth, Vt.; Edgar Lorenzo b Jan. 6, 1852, in Plymouth, Vt.; Ella Maria b Feb. 10, 1854, in Chester, Vt.; Ada Adeline b April 20, 1856, in Chester, Vt.; Ashbel Gould b April 29, 1860, in Andover, Vt.; Isbel Eliza b April 29, 1860, in Andover, Vt.; Hardy Omeron b Aug. 27, 1862, in Andover, Vt.; Harden Omira b Aug. 27, 1862, in Andover, Vt. Isbel E. d in Rutland, Vt., Jan. 24, 1898.

The Bowen Family.

The Bowen family was one of the most notable families that ever resided in Reading.

Daniel Bowen was b in Woodstock, Conn., Oct. 21, 1750, and removed to Reading in 1785, and purchased about 300 acres in the south-east corner of the town. He enlisted April 1, 1777, in Capt. Manning's company, of the 2nd Regt., Conn. Continental line, and was discharged April 2, 1780. He m Mehitable Packard in Brookfield, Mass., Feb. 21, 1788, and took his bride at once to Reading, where they both died.

Their children were all b in Reading, and were as follows,—Elisha, Dorothy, Hervey, Silas, and Susanna.

In the early part of the 19th century, there were four families of Bowens, 35 people in all, on the road from Cavendish to Hammondsville, while there was no village there.

At the time Daniel located in Reading, the nearest family north of him, was at the 'Blood Place', and the nearest grist mill was at Gould's mills in Springfield, 14 miles south, and no established road to reach it; and tradition states that it was many years before he owned any vehicle, even an ox-cart.

Silas Bowen.

Of the children of Silas Bowen,—

Elisha was b Jan. 2, 1791, and became a physician; Dorothy m Salmon Parker of Springfield; Hervey d in infancy; Silas b Nov. 8, 1797; m Rowenna Banister of W. Windsor, and d at Weathersfield, Dec. 25, 1881. They had six children, all b in Reading,—Susan, who became a school teacher, and m Rev. Wm. H. Bird (Presbyterian); Daniel b Feb. 4, 1831, who became a clergyman, and resides in Jacksonville, Fla.; Adoniram Judson b Aug. 7, 1834, and is a fruit grower and market gardener, near Jacksonville, Fla.; James Colman b Feb. 5, 1838, and is engaged in the cold storage egg business near North Springfield, Vt.; Marcia b May 21, 1840, and resides at North Springfield, Vt.; Emily b May 14, 1842, and d Sept. 20, 1867.

Silas Bowen resided for many years on the farm now occupied by Oscar S. Randall. He was a farmer, but was one of a half-dozen to build the woolen factory at Felchville, in 1833. That enterprise was prosperous until the great financial crisis of 1837. In the meantime, the village of Felchville had sprung up, the brick meeting house had been built near the factory, and a Baptist Church had been organized (1835) with Silas Bowen as deacon.

The factory company was a partnership, not a corporation. A chancery suit against a partner who refused to bear his share of the loss, was instituted and dragged its weary course for many years.

Silas Bowen was a man of the utmost sincerity and very firm and conscientious in his religious beliefs. He was a firm believer in education, and was always willing to further his children therein to the cramping of his slender means.

Isaac Bowen

Was the son of Dea. Henry Bowen, and was b in Woodstock, Conn., April 9, 1771. He removed to Reading about 1794. He was a hotel-keeper all his life, and was a near neighbor of his uncle Daniel, his tavern being near the north line of his uncle's farm. Isaac's children were b between 1790, and 1807. Of his children, Henry and Fordyce Foster became merchants, the former at Indian Town, N. C., the latter at Memphis, Tenn.

Silas Bowen, M. D.,

Son of Dea. Henry Bowen and brother of Isaac, was b in W. Woodstock, Conn., Sept. 6, 1774, and d in Nebraska City, Neb., Sept. 16, 1857. He m in Reading, Sept. 11, 1803, Polly Chandler, daughter of Jona. Chandler. Before his marriage Dr. Silas came to Reading in 1799, and settled near So. Reading. Here between 1805 and 1820, his eight children were born. He resided and practised his profession in Reading about 23 years, and then removed to Clarendon, Vt., in 1822; of his children, Marcellus was b March 22, 1812, and became a physician and practiced at South Boston, Mass.

"The career of Dr. Marcellus was brilliant, but all too brief. He sacrificed himself to his work, overtaxing his strength in an epidemic of fever in South Boston, Mass., especially among the poor, on whose petition a street was named for him". He d May 16, 1848.

Another son of Dr. Silas Bowen, was Aurelius Bowen, M. D. (Surgeon General of the Sons of the American Revolution) b Jan. 30, 1817. He m in Windsor, Vt.,

Arabella, daughter of Gen. Abner Forbes. Dr. Bowen in 1893, was still in the active practice of his profession in Nebraska City, Neb.

He graduated from the Castleton (Vt.) Medical College in 1852. In 1855, he was among the early settlers of Kansas. At the Big Spring's Convention Sept. 4, 1855, he was on a committee of 13, and in a minority of one, in favor of an immediate state organization.

Dr. Bowen was a Surgeon of the 2nd Neb. Cavalry in the Civil War, was at the battle of White Stone Hills in the Sioux War of 1863, under Gen. Sully and received honorable mention.

In 1873—4, he was State Senator and drew up and introduced the bill for the first Institute in Nebraska for the blind, and was director of the Deaf Mutes' Institute of Nebraska for the first seven years, and has been the Otoe County Superintendent of Schools.

Louisa Bowen, daughter of Dr. Silas Bowen, was b in Reading, April 16, 1805, m Alba Southard, M. D. A son of this union was Prof. L. A. Southard, who became quite a musical celebrity and writer in Boston.

Dr. Silas Bowen had also two daughters; Mary who m John Mellen Olin and Cornelia who m Erastus Vilas, of Alstead, N. H.

Elisha Bowen,

Son of Dea. Henry Bowen, was b in W. Woodstock, Conn., Feb. 20, 1779. He had seven children, all b in Reading except one, between 1807 and 1823. He subsequently removed to Ascutneyville, Vt., where he d.

Henry Sylvester Bowen who resided for many years at Ascutneyville, was his son.

Another son was Elisha Chandler Bowen, M. D., b April 22, 1820, and removed to Cleveland, Ohio.

The Bixby Family,
By Martin J. Bixby

The first Bixby, that we have any record of came from Denmark to Boxford, England, then to Ipswich, Mass., where Nathaniel Bixby was a householder in 1668, and the father of Joseph Bixby, who m in 1647, Mrs. Sarah (Wyatt) Heard. Her parents were living at the time of her m, and mention is made of land which her mother owned in Arrington, County of Suffolk, England. Joseph Bixby was one of the leading men among them. He was one of the signers of the petition for the incorporation of Boxford where he spent the remainder of his life. He d April 17, 1700. His children were Joseph, Sarah, Nathaniel, Mary, George, Jonathan, Daniel, Benjamin, and Abigail.

Benjamin Bixby, son of Joseph, m Mary——. He was b at Ipswich in 1653, and lived in Topsfield, Conn. His children were Benjamin, Joseph, Caleb, Samuel, George, Nathan, Elizabeth, Jacob, Jemima, and Richard. Jacob was b April 29, 1700, and m Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Jewett, of Killingly, Conn., Feb. 4, 1731, and ten children were b to them. His wife and all his children d. After living a widower ten years he m Jan. 2, 1758, Sarah, daughter of John and Jemima Younglove. By his second m there was b Jacob, Daniel, Moses, Samuel, Younglove, Jemima, and Hannah.

Younglove, son of Jacob, was b Sep. 5 1768, and m Dec. 26, 1793, Rebecca Bayden, and they removed to Reading, Vt., and settled in the west part of the town near Mount Moses where he lived, and d April 6, 1836, this wife d Feb. 2 1839. He was a Deacon of the Congregational Church at Reading Center, and was known for his piety. There were nine children b to this union. Daniel b Dec. 17, 1794, d in Kansas Nov. 3, 1875, leaving three children Adaline, Harriet, and Lorenzo, Rebecca, b Nov. 28, 1796, d Nov. 26, 1875. She m Jesse

Briggs of Bridgewater, Vt., a soldier of the War of 1812. She had two children James Arnold, now deceased and Judson Y., of Bridgewater. Jemima. b Sep. 28, 1798. d Oct. 13, 1846. She m Deacon Pettigrew, of Plymouth, Vt. Asa b May 1, 1801, d at Rushford, N. Y., May 8, 1849. He m Miss Tolles of Weathersfield. They had three children Henry, Olive, and Ellen. They all settled in Nebraska. Lucy b Oct. 17, 1804, d Aug. 16, 1859; James b Dec. 4, 1805, d Oct. 4 1840; Polly b March 20, 1807, d Nov. 13, 1825; Younglove, Jr, b March 12, 1812, d Aug. 6, 1877.

He m Lucinda Hatch of Weathersfield and settled in Sunderland, Mass. Two children were b to them, Albertus of that town, and Eugene, deceased. James Arnold, the only one of the family that made Reading their home, was b March 17, 1809, and remained at home during his minority, attended school at the old Brown Schoolhouse, where I have heard him say there were sixty scholars during the winter term, and among the good teachers were Judge Thos. F. Hammond of W. Windsor, and the late Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, Salmon P. Chase.

For the next ten years he worked out on farms summers and was a boss starch maker winters, running mills in South Reading, Cavendish, Plymouth and Barnard. In March, 1841, he bought the Jared Bigelow farm west of South Reading where he lived an honored citizen, and died of old age June 15, 1893. He m March 1841, Betsey Martin, of Weathersfield, by whom he had one son Martin J. Bixby, now of Claremont, N. H. His wife d July 11, 1857, and on Sept. 15, 1859, he m for his second wife, Mrs. Elizabeth (Weston) Orvis, of Ludlow, by whom he had one son, James Albert. His second wife d April 5, 1874, and on the 27, Nov. 1877, he m Mrs. Susan L. (Dodge) Kenney, of Reading, who d Aug. 30, 1888.

Martin J. Bixby, son of James A. and Betsey (Mar-

tin) Bixby, was b in Reading, Jan. 7, 1842, and attended the common school at South Reading, and a short time at Black River Academy at Ludlow, Vt. Aug. 15, 1862, he enlisted in Co. C. 4th Vt. Vols. and served therein nearly three years, and all this time at the front with the old Vermont Brigade, except four months spent in hospitals recovering from a wound received at Charlestown, West Vir., in 1864.

He was honorably discharged as Commissary Sergeant of his Regiment, June 19, 1865, on account of the close of the war. After taking a course at Eastman's Business college, and a short clerk-ship in a store, he started in the mercantile business in Perkinsville, Vt., in 1868, and continued in that line, and for a long time as partner of Elroy C. Robinson; and was post-master most of the time until the spring of 1898, when he removed to Claremont, N. H., and engaged as a baker, and then in connection therewith as a mileage broker.

He m Frances E. Weston, of Reading, May 17, 1868. They are the parents of one daughter, Ada Frances, b Jan. 24, 1878, who was educated at the common schools in Perkinsville, and was graduated from Goddard seminary, Barre, Vt., in the class of 1896. She was m May 29, 1902, to D. William Egan, of Claremont, shipping clerk for the Maynard Shoe Co.

James Albert, b May, 1862, has always resided on the home farm. He has been twice married, his first wife being Mary Rand, of Reading; his second, Jennie Hale, of Proctorsville, Vt.

Lucy A. Cooke.

This lady was b in Calais, Vt., in 1825, and d at North Cambridge, Mass., May 24, 1895. She was best known as "Sleeping Lucy", and for a long time resided in the hotel at Hammondsville, where she received the patronage of a large circle of friends who had the utmost

confidence in her powers as a healing medium and revealer of mysteries through spiritual influence.

She removed to Montpelier, where she practiced her profession for over twenty years, and then removed to Boston, Mass., where she practiced twelve years. She had resided in Cambridge, Mass., for about eight years, and at the time of her death was Mrs. E. W. Radden.

Charles R. Cooke,

The husband of "Sleeping Lucy", was b in Morristown, Vt. Her maiden name was Lucy Ainsworth.

They came to reside in Reading in 1848, and remained here until Mr. Cooke d at the Forest House, in Hammondsville, in Aug., 1855. Their only child, Julia A., was b in Reading, July 15, 1851, and m Frank Greenbank, of Franklin Falls, N. H. Mrs. Cooke resided in Reading about one year after the death of her husband and then removed to Montpelier, Vt.

Milo B. Cooke,

Brother of Chas. R., was b in Morristown, Vt., Dec. 12, 1825. He m Oct. 10, 1855, Jane Whitmore, (daughter of Nelson Whitmore,) who was b in Reading, May 30, 1833, and they have ever since resided on the "Nelson Whitmore" place, in Reading. Their only child, Vernon C., was b in Reading, March 23, 1862. He m Aug. 25, 1888, May Kennon, b in Boston, Mass., Jan. 24, 1864. Their children are,—Dwight Whitmore, b Oct. 29, 1891; Paul Kennon, b March 29, 1894. Mr. Vernon C. Cooke's residence is at 21 Prospect St., Malden, Mass., and he is in business as a dealer in leather, in Boston, Mass.

Ashbel G. Coolidge.

By the Editor.

Ashbel G. Coolidge, son of Lorenzo G., and Nancy (Crossman) Coolidge, was b in Andover, Vt.

He came to Reading with his parents in 1871, and came under the observation and training of Mr. Gilbert A. Davis, who saw in him those sterling qualities that have resulted in making him the successful and respected man that he is. For a long time, Mr. Davis gave him private instruction, and influenced him to go forward and procure an education.

He studied at Goddard seminary, at Barre, Vt., and studied law in Rutland. Mr. Coolidge was thrown upon his own resources to secure the funds required to pursue his studies; and by work during vacations, by teaching public schools, and evening schools at the House of Correction, he succeeded in securing the necessary funds for pursuing his chosen line of studies, and was admitted to the Bar of Vermont. He located at Rutland where he has continued to reside, and has an extensive practice. He was Messenger in the Executive Department, under Gov. Ormsbee, in 1886, and Assistant Secretary of the Vermont Senate in 1896-'98.

Mr. Coolidge m^r Miss Smith of Woodstock, and one son, Paul, is the result of their union.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Biographical and Family Sketches, Continued.

John Davis and His Descendants; Lysander M. Davis, Attorney; Rev. Samuel A. Davis; Capt. Chas. L. Davis.

John Davis and His Descendants,
Compiled by Fred C. Davis.

The early history of John Davis is not very well known. The most that we can learn is, that he and his two oldest sons, Samuel and John, were revolutionary soldiers, and fought at Lexington, and Bunker Hill.

He moved from Shirley, Mass., to Reading, Vt., in the last part of the eighteenth century, and he and his son Levi, took up a tract of land now owned by Elroy Fullam and Carlos Hawkins, and they built a saw-mill where C. Hawkins' mill now stands.

John Davis and his wife spent their declining years clearing the land, and their remains now lie in the cemetery at Bailey's Mills. They left nine children:—

Samuel, who settled in Chelmsford, Mass.; John, who settled in Shirley, Mass.; Jonathan, who settled in Windsor, Vt.; Eliakim, who settled first in Reading, and then in Errol, N. H.; Cornelius, who settled in Windsor, Vt.; Ezekiel, who settled in Reading, Vt.; Levi, who settled in Reading, Vt.; Huldah, who m—— Holden and settled in Townsend, Vt.; and Thankful, who m—— Palmer and settled in Brookfield, Vt.,

We find that all of these boys have owned land in Reading, prior to the year 1798, and in their various deeds, Cornelius was described as a gentleman; Samuel as a brick-layer; Jonathan as a cord-wainer; Eliakim as a yeoman. Ezekial Davis owned small farms in va-

rious parts of the town, but the most of his children were b and raised on a small farm about one-half mile north of the farm at one time owned by L. G. Coolidge, on a road that formerly run from the farm belonging to the late Alamander Wilkins, north of Felchville, over the hill to So. Reading, which road and farm however, have long since been abandoned.

He was a teamster by trade, and drove a team to and from Boston ; was fat, genial, and a pleasing storyteller. He was b in 1770, m Bethiah Grandy, d in 1849, and they brought up eleven children, namely :—

Edmond, who settled in Reading ; Betsey, who m ——— Shattuck, and settled in West Windsor ; Solomon, who settled in Ogdensburg, N.Y ; Almond, who settled in Reading, in the Burrough ; Clarrissa, who m ——— Amsden, and settled in West Windsor ; Sophia, who m Henry Megrath, and settled in Reading ; Cynthia, who m ——— Child ; John, who settled in Cavendish ; Christopher, who settled in Akron, Ohio ; Lorintha, who m ——— Curtiss, and settled in Boxford, Mass. ; Lucy, who m ——— Grandy, and settled in Sherburne, Vt.

Edmond Davis was b Oct. 10, 1792, m Rebeckah Philbrook, Nov. 20, 1816, and d Sept. 3, 1880. About 1815 he bought 100 acres of land on the north side of the road, and about one-half mile west of where Andrew A. Parker formerly resided, and lived thereon until March, 1819, when he bought the farm where Frank H. Davis now resides ; and on this farm he reared a family of nine children, and all of the Davises now residing in Reading are his descendants. Their children were :—

Sabria G., who m Asa A. Burnham, of Reading ; L. Carlos ; Aurelia E., who m ——— Marsh, and Jonathan Hapgood, of Peru, Vt. ; Salome T., who m Silas A. Robinson, of Reading ; Eliza A. who m first Silas W. Pike, and is now wife of John Durand, of Reading ; Chas. A., who resided at Reading (now deceased) ; Fannie R., who m Benjamin Barnard, of Elmira, N. D. ; Justin S. ; Cor-

nelia A.

All except two of his children have made their homes in Reading.

L. Carlos Davis was b March 29th, 1819. m Ruth Hapgood, Nov. 22, 1842. He d Dec. 11, 1891. In 1841 he bought the home farm of his father and always resided on it up to the time of his death. He held the office of Overseer of the Poor, and other town offices, and raised a family of four children, viz :—

Myron A. ; Frank H., now on the old farm ; Nellie C., who m Frank S. Griffin, of Masonville, Ia. ; and Fred C. Davis, a lawyer, now residing and practicing his profession in Springfield, Vt.

Charles A. Davis, b Aug. 15, 1827, lived on the old Sawyer farm, and had a family of nine children, of whom Alba now resides on the same farm.

Justin S. Davis, b March 11, 1832, m Ann Tarble, and d Aug. 30, 1889. They had two children, Edmond J., now residing in Reading, and Ina L., a school-teacher, now deceased.

Myron A. Davis was b Aug. 19, 1848, m Belle M. Byron, and d Oct. 16, 1893. He was educated in the common schools of Reading, and at the Black river academy. At the age of twenty-two he entered into partnership with Levi K. Weatherbee, and they built a steam mill at So. Reading on the old tannery site.

After running the mill for a short time in partnership, he bought out his partner, and until June 14, 1879, manufactured horse-rakes, mop handles, and chairstock in this mill, when it burned to the ground. The following autumn, Mr. Davis bought out the chair factory property, built on the old woolen mill site at Felchville, and at this place did a large and flourishing business in making maple and cane seat chairs, which he shipped to almost every state in the union, and to foreign countries. This has been the principal industry in town ever since he took hold of it, up to the time of his death.

John Davis and His Son Eliakim, and His
Descendants,

By Lysander M. Davis, of Pine Hill, Alabama.

John Davis was b in England about the year 1725. In the year 1745 he was at the capture of the city of Louisburg, in the British or Colonial Army, I am not certain which. The next year he was in Halifax, N. S., where he dressed a powder horn in a very artistic manner, and engraved on it his name and date, in the quaint style of that time, "John Davis, his Horn, Halifax, August 6th, 1746."

At the breaking out of the American revolution, he was in Shirley, Mass., with a family of six sons and two daughters. He was a "minute-man", and when notified of the battle of Lexington and Concord, left his oxen and plow in the field, and taking his gun and powder-horn, joined the army at Cambridge, and served through the war.

That horn is now in the possession of his great grand-son, A. L. Davis, of Errol, N. H., and is regarded and preserved with reverence, as a historic relic of his ancestor, and of the revolutionary war.

Sometime later, John Davis moved to Reading, and improved a valuable farm on the brook, at some distance from Bailey's Mills. He d there, and was buried at the Reading cemetery.

Of the seven sons of John Davis, three have settled in Reading. Levi, the youngest, stayed with his father and inherited the homestead. Ezekiel had an adjoining farm, but sold it and moved to a farm near Felchville. Quite a number of his descendants are still in Reading, and I believe they are the only posterity of John Davis remaining in that town. My father, Eliakim, settled in the Borough district, and was the second settler in that district, Daniel Goddard being the first. In 1830, father sold his farm and moved to Errol, N. H., he died in

Stirling, Mass., while there on a visit to his oldest son, Rev. S. A. Davis, aged seventy-five. His three sons and seven daughters all left Reading and settled in other places. Ezekiel and Levi Davis each reared large families of sons and daughters, as was the custom of the country at that time; a good custom, but like some other good things has become very unfashionable. I wandered westward, lived in Iowa, California, sailed on the Pacific ocean to Panama, and finally settled here. In 1854 I was admitted to the Wilcox County bar as an Attorney and had a good practice for twenty-five years. During that time I was administrator or executor of a good many estates and had to furnish bonds, some of them rather large. I can think of two of \$80,000 each.

I was named executor of one estate, the property of which was appraised at \$60,000. You must not think I held property enough to make such amounts, for I really had but very little; but I was able to get the names of property holders that made the bonds pass. Some of the sureties voluntarily offered to put their names on my bonds.

In 1884 I was candidate on the Greenback state ticket for Attorney General, but according to the custom of the time, was counted out. Recently I have entirely retired from legal practice, and devoted my attention to farming. My brother, Rev. S. A. Davis, was at the Centennial of Reading in 1872. He d in 1897. His daughter, Minnie S. Davis, resides at Hartford, Conn., and is gifted as a writer of poetry.

My maternal grandfather, Collins Hathorn, (as they now spell it, the original name being Hawthorne) of Jaffrey, N. H., was also a revolutionary soldier. His son, I. B. Hawthorne, now resides at Alden, N. Y. Collins Hathorn settled in Reading, and a more full account of him and his descendants will be found later in this volume.

Rev. S. A. Davis.

Rev. Samuel Armin Davis, son of Eliakim and ——— Davis, was b at Reading, Vt., in the Borough, March 11, 1810, and died at Hartford, Conn, March 17, 1897. He was educated at Chester Academy, and afterwards prepared for the Universalist Ministry under the instruction of Rev. Wm. S. Balch. We quote at length, from the Universalist Year Book of 1898:—

“Rev. S. A. Davis preached his first sermon in 1833, and was ordained in June, 1834. He began his Ministry in Pittsburgh, Penn., where in 1836, associated with Rev. M. A. Chappell, he began the publication of a small paper called the Glad Tidings, and Ohio Universalist, published simultaneously, semi-monthly, at Pittsburg and Columbus, Ohio. With the beginning of Vol. 3 the name was changed to ‘The Glad Tidings and Ladies’ Universalist Magazine,’ and was published weekly at Akron, Ohio, where Mr. Davis was then located.

At the close of Vol. IV it was merged into ‘The Star in the West’. In 1837, he was associated with Rev. Mr. Chappell in compiling ‘The Western Universalist Hymn Book, which was published in Pittsburg. After a year or so spent in Missionary work in Ohio (where the Universalist faith was then almost unknown) he settled in Mass., having pastorates at Hingham, Quincy and Sterling; his latest pastorates were in Bethel and South Woodstock, Vermont. In 1862, he established his home in Hartford, Conn., and was for many years State Missionary (minister at large), at the same time conducting the Conn. department of the Gospel Banner.

Early interested in anti-slavery, Mr. Davis’ home was, for many years, a station for the underground railroad, where many a fugitive slave found shelter and help. He was also actively interested in the temperance reform as well as in every work which sought the good of

the unfortunate. A long life crowned with usefulness, was God's blessing upon him."

For the last six or seven years of Mr. Davis' life, he did little preaching, but always interested himself in the Hartford church, gladly supplementing, in many ways, the work of the pastor. Mr. Davis carried the love of hospitality almost to an extreme, and his genial, sweet nature won him hosts of friends among young and old.

For many years before his departure to the heavenly home, he was affectionately addressed as "Father Davis".

Mr. Davis was twice married, the first time to Miss Mary Partridge, of Rockingham, Vt., and the second to Miss C. Elizabeth Keyes, of Sterling, Mass. Mrs. Mary Davis d in Sterling, Aug. 1848, leaving five daughters, the eldest, thirteen years of age, and the youngest, three months.

The second wife, who still survives him, had also five daughters. The eldest of the family, Miss Minnie S. Davis, has been quite successful in the line of authorship. She has published several books which have been well received by the public. These books are entitled, "Marion Lester", "Clinton Forrest", "Rosalie", and "Ideal Motherhood". In later years she identified herself with the so called New Thought movement, and has written and lectured on metaphysical subjects.

Mr. Davis was very happy in his daughters' success and always sympathized with her work and her progressive ideas.

L. Carlos Davis,
By the Editor.

L. Carlos Davis was one of the most respected citizens of Reading. He was a man of strict integrity and fair dealing, a strong advocate for the principles of temperance and morality, and perfectly reliable as a neigh-

bor and friend. When a school-boy, in his own district, he served as secretary of the first temperance society in this section, and later was secretary of the Windsor County Temperance Society. He spent his life on the same farm on which his father, Edmond Davis, had formerly lived. He was m in 1843, to Ruth Hapgood, of Peru, who survives him.

He left three sons and one daughter, all settled in life. In 1857, he built a stone house on his farm which he occupied until his death. Eminently social and industrious, to his pleasant home his friends were welcome and found sure entertainment at his board, as well as listening to one of extensive and varied information, and viewing the thrift forwarded by an industrious life. He found comfort in spiritual philosophy that gave him tangible assurance of a living hereafter.

Charles L. Davis,

Son of Asa and Mary (Hosmer) Davis, was b in Chester, Windsor County, Vermont, Aug. 23, 1833.

Was educated in the public schools and at Chester Academy. The first of May, 1851, he went to Keene, N. H., and was apprenticed to J. W. Prentiss & Co., of the New Hampshire Sentinel, staying there until the spring of 1853, when he went to Boston, Mass., and was employed as a printer on the Boston Journal, Boston Traveller, and in the book and job office of Damrell & Moore.

In 1857 he went west, stopping the first year in Chicago, Ill., and from thence to Red Wing, Minnesota, Nov. 26, 1858, and went into partnership with Lucius F. Hubbard, in the publication of the Red Wing Republican, afterwards the Goodhue County Republican.

He sold to Mr. Hubbard in 1861, and bought the office again in the spring of 1862. Aug. 16, 1862, he was commissioned by Gov. Alex. Ramsey, as Second Lieutenant, mustered into the United States service,

went to Red Wing and assisted in raising what was afterwards Co. D, 10th regiment, Minnesota Volunteers. On the formation of the company at Fort Snelling, Minn., was elected First Lieutenant. The Indian outbreak occurred in Minnesota in August, 1862, and all the regiments raised in the state at that time were kept in the state, and these included the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th regiments of infantry. As soon as the regiments could be supplied with arms and equipments, the different companies were sent to the frontier, Co. D marching up the Minnesota river to Mankoto, and went into camp at the junction of the Minnesota and Blue Earth rivers, guarding some 300 Indians who had surrendered and been brought to this point.

On this march, he was appointed Quartermaster. Co. D remained in camp until Dec. 6, 1862, when the Indians were removed to the village of Mankoto, where better and more secure quarters for them had been provided.

While in camp at Mankoto, the soldiers were provided with tents only, Co. D having Sibley tents. Just before their removal, the thermometer went to 20 degrees below zero.

From Mankoto, Co. D marched to Henderson, Sibley Co., and went into winter quarters. At this post, Lt. Davis was again appointed Quartermaster and Commissary, and had a large amount of government stores for which he was responsible.

In March, 1863, this company was ordered to the frontier, then only 16 miles west of Henderson, to build a stockade for the better protection of the settlers. The place selected was on the road to Fort Ridgeley, on one of the highest points on the rolling prairie, near Lake Titlow.

In May, of that year, Co. D was ordered to Camp Pope, on the Minnesota river, near where the town of Redwood Falls is now situated, to join an expedition then being fitted out against the Indians. Being on de-

tached service, Lt. Davis had to go to Camp Pope to secure an order for turning over the government property in his hands, making the journey, some forty miles, on the back of a mule, and along the trail to Fort Ridgely, and further up the Minnesota river to Camp Pope.

June 16, 1863, the expedition, under command of Gen. H. H. Sibley, started on the march to the Indian country, going up the west bank of the Minnesota river, to what is known as "Brown's Valley", a plot of nearly level land situated between Lake Traverse and Big Stone lake, the waters of the former flowing northward to Hudson Bay, and the latter to the Gulf of Mexico. Co. D camped here several days awaiting supplies, and then marched northerly, west of the Red River of the north, to the Cheyenne river, spending and celebrating the 4th of July on its banks.

From there the command moved westerly and northerly, crossing the Cheyenne again further up. At a point about 30 miles south of Devil's Lake, Camp Atchison was formed, and one company from each regiment, a section of a battery, and a squad of cavalry were left as a guard under the command of Maj. Michael Cook, of the 10th, and Lt. Davis was appointed Adjutant.

At this camp were left the sick and disabled, and all the supplies not needed for a forced march towards the Missouri river, the balance of the command going in light marching orders. But two or three days from Camp Atchison, the command struck an Indian Camp at what was called Indian Mound, and a fight ensued, the Indians being driven off, and across the Missouri river near where the city of Bismarck now is.

On the return of the expedition to Camp Atchison, the homeward march was begun, the route being by way of Fort Abercrombie on the Red River to Sauke Center in Minnesota, when the 10th regiment was sent directly south to Fort Ridgely, keeping outside of settlements. From Fort Ridgely the regiment returned to

Fort Snelling.

Early in October, 1863, the regiment embarked on a boat for Dunleith, Ill., and from that place went by rail to St. Louis, Mo., where it remained on guard and provost duty until the spring of 1864. During the stay of the regiment in St. Louis, Lt. Davis did guard duty, was detailed, and was one of a general court martial for about six weeks, was on a council of administration to dispose of deceased soldiers' effects left at hospitals whose relatives were unknown, and acted for a while as Adjutant of the regiment.

Feb. 16, 1864, he was promoted to Captain. While at St. Louis, Capt. Davis made one trip as far south on the Mississippi river as Vicksburg, taking about 100 recruits, stragglers, deserters, etc., to the front. It was on this trip that the guerillas were firing from the banks of the river, and at Friar's Point, (below Helena) the machinery of the boat became disabled, and the boat was beached.

There were about 100 armed men on board, and they formed a line behind the levee to protect the boat if necessary. Resuming his journey, and passing one point, the men lay under arms, guns loaded, expecting a volley, but they did not fire. Capt. Davis made another trip up the Cumberland river to Nashville, Tenn., with about 90 men, mostly deserters and stragglers. From St. Louis he made other and shorter trips. In the spring of 1864, April 22, the regiment was ordered to Columbus, Ky., and from there, companies D and E were sent to Island No. 10.

When that island was abandoned, the companies returned to Columbus, and the regiment was sent to Memphis, Tenn., and made a part of the 16th Army Corps, and were in the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, the corps being under the command of Gen. A. J. Smith, the Division under Gen. Joseph A. Mower.

Soon after the arrival in Memphis, the whole Corps

marched along the line of the Memphis & Charleston R. R., protecting a corps of bridge-builders who were replacing the bridges destroyed at the time the Confederates abandoned that section, all the rolling stock being stored at Memphis and disabled.

At the village of LaGrange, Tenn., the command remained several days, his company being quartered in an abandoned cottage, and the men doing guard duty.

In July the command marched south into Mississippi, going by way of Ripley, and arriving at Pontotoc July 11th. All of that day they were in the advance Division, and they could hear the guns of the advance guard.

Just before entering Pontotoc, the 1st Division was formed in line of battle, and a section of a battery shelled the woods. The battle did not take place, and they marched through the town, camping on the southern side on high ground. The next morning the long roll was sounded, and again a line of battle was formed, the enemy doubtless thinking we were too strong for them, or had the best position. The second day, or about July 13th, the command marched through the town again, but turned to the east, aiming to reach Tupelo and destroy the trestle on the line of a rail-road leading, I think, to Mobile.

Capt. Clarke's division was this day in the rear, and while on the march, were attacked by the rebels under Gen. Forrest. They fired into the 7th Minnesota, killing one of the surgeons and some others. His regiment was formed in line of battle several times, but was not attacked. They had to double-quick over several miles of road to protect points where the enemy was threatening, exposed to a constant fire of solid shot and shell ; but they had no casualties, the shots going over their heads. The heat was intense, and prostrated some of the men. Gen. Smith secured an advantageous position, and went into camp.

The next morning, July 14th, the rebels, some 12,000 strong, made a determined attempt to capture the whole outfit, making three charges, but were repulsed each time. The 10th Minnesota regiment was on the extreme right of the line, supporting an Iowa battery, hugging the ground as closely as possible, and listening to the whistle of bullets, as they passed over their heads.

The casualties were one killed, and twelve wounded in the regiment, only one of the wounded being from D company, and only slightly wounded at that.

Gen. Smith accomplished what he was sent to do—burned a long trestle. It was a move to protect Sherman's communication, then moving towards Atlanta, it having become known that Gen. Forrest, and the western Gen. Lee, were gathering a force for that purpose.

After taking care of the rebel and their own wounded, the command marched back to Memphis, the rebels attacking their rear, but doing no particular damage.

On arriving at Memphis, Capt. Davis, with others who were unfit for duty, were sent north to Fort Snelling. At that post, Capt. Davis was put in command of Co. A, permanent garrison, in what was known as the Draft Rendezvous. This company was composed of unassigned recruits, those who had been sent to this camp for the same reason, incapacitated for active duty.

While at the Fort, Capt. Davis was sent with recruits to Cairo, Ill., and in March, 1865, with about 90 recruits and conscripts, to City Point, Va., then the headquarters of Gen. U. S. Grant, in front of Petersburg. He was there when the last battle of the war commenced.

Capt. Davis remained at Fort Snelling until mustered out with the regiment, Aug. 19, 1865. Nov. 1, 1864, Capt. Davis was married at Red Wing, Minn., to Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. Chris Graham, and commenced keeping house at Fort Snelling. She died July 20, 1876. After the war he returned to Red Wing, and resumed publication of the Goodhue Co. Republican; and

in 1868, he sold his interest to Maj. Snider, and in 1869, bought the Red Wing Argus, which he continued to publish until Sept. 1, 1897. This paper supported the principles of the Democrat party.

Sept. 24, 1878, he was again m to Agnes Celinda, daughter of Wm. H. Norton, of Red Wing. The issue of this marriage were :—

Gilbert Norton, b March 18, 1880 ; Charles Asa, b Oct. 19, 1881 ; Agnes, b Nov. 18, 1883 ; Albert Henry, b Jan. 3, 1887.

Capt. Davis has several times visited his brother at Reading, and has enjoyed the delightful scenery of that town.

In 1898 Gov. Lind appointed Capt. Davis as postmaster at the State Capital in St. Paul, Minn., which position he now holds, and this has necessitated his removal to Minneapolis, where he now resides, and his two oldest sons are students in the University of Minnesota.

Capt. Davis has been a musician of much celebrity, having been the leader of choirs, and in charge of musical conventions.

CHAPTER XIX.

Brown Genealogy ; Estabrook Genealogy ; Dr. Ripley Clark.

Brown Genealogy.
By Adin C. Estabrook.

The Brown School House District was settled by Thomas Brown, a cavalry soldier in the British army. He was taken prisoner at Oswego, during the French and Indian wars of 1755. He got away from two Indians who had nearly stripped him of clothing, and made his way to his home in Reading; Mass.

He was the fifth from Nicholas, who settled in Reading, Mass., in 1631. He m Ruth Walton, of Marblehead, grand-daughter of Rev. Wm. Walton, of Gloucestershire, Eng. They had Thomas (2); Benjamin (2); Cluna (2); and Ruth (2). Thomas m Sybil Bowman, of Lexington, Mass. They had Sybil (3), m Thomas Estabrook; Oren (3) m Miss Dorwin, and had Philo (4). Philo Bowman (3) m Phoebe Mead, had Brainard (4), and Eletta (4); Warren (3) m Miss Gay, had Oscar (4), and Louise (4); Eunice m Joseph Edmunds, had Marcus (4), and Rosa (4); Orinda m Samuel Adams, had Newell (4), Carrie (4), Preston (4), Cornelia (4), and Philomela (4); Carrie m Lauren Broughton, and had Elmer (5), who m Miss Reynolds, and had Carrie (6); Ardella (5), m R. W. Eggleston, and had twins, Larry (6), and Lucy (6).

Cornelia (5) m Carson Fisher, and had three children:—Henry (5), Marshall (5), and Jenry (5).

Newell (3), m Mary Hall, and had two girls, and had three at one birth.

Alfred (3), m Miss Harrington, had Edna (4), who m D. C. Hall, and had Margurette (5).

Benjamin (2), m Miss Burnham, and had Walton (3), Mary (3), and Franklin (3).

Walton m ———, and had Isadore (4). He was a merchant at Felchville.

Ruth m John Page, and had Ira (3), and Esther (3). She m a Mr. Fisher, and had one son, Henry (4), who lives in Waltham, Mass.

Estabrook Genealogy.

By Adin C. Estabrook.

In 1660, Joseph and Thomas, of Enfield, Eng., settled in Concord, Mass. Thos. m Sarah Temple, and had Thomas (2), and Abraham (2).

Thomas (2), had Robert (3), m Olive Townsend, and settled in Reading about 1780, in the school district at the north west corner of the town, which included all north of the Edgar Stearns farm, and in 1810, contained 60 scholars. Now not a building is standing. He fell from his horse in 1803, and was killed.

Jonathan (4), m Mary Flagg. Children:—Sally (5) m Thomas Ransom, had Rosamond (6). She m Collins Hathorn, and had Dennis (7), and Ira (7).

Susannah m Isaac Hemenway, no children.

Mary (5), m Wm. Kidder, of Braintree. Settled at Darien, N. Y., had Volussa (6), Maria (6), Wm. H. (6), and Sarah (6).

Jonathan (6), m Rhoda Hathorn, had Oliva (6), Fidelia (6), and Rosamond (6).

Rebekah (5), m Enoch Winslow, had Marcellus (6), and Betsey (6).

Ann (5), m Nathaniel Hathorn, had Benj. (6) who m Amanda Bridge ; Ira (6), and Electa (6), who m Joel M. Slack.

Hannah (5), m Rufus Kidder, had Henry R. (6).

He m Flora Kendrick.

Olive (5), m Jacob Vanderhyden ; d in California. They had nine children ; Levinus, settled in Conn.

Thomas (5), m Sybil Brown, b on the old Brown farm in 1792. Children—Thomas B (6), b 1813 murdered at Leonidas, Mich., Nov. 13, 1853 ; John (6), three days old ; Alonzo Flagg (6), lawyer, graduate of the Norwich university, class of 1836, under Capt. Partridge ; Jasper Hazen (6), physician, b 1815, d 1842 ; Wm. Warren (6), shoe dealer, m Isabel Conant, had Fanny (7), who m J. C. Harding, of Philadelphia, and had two children (8).

Annah (7), Oscar (7), Edgar (7), Jasper (7), who d in the army, George (7).

Mary Viola, b 1823, d in Fitchburg, 1865.

Adin Cady Estabrook

was b in Reading, Vt., Dec. 9, 1828, on the homestead of his grand-father, Jona. Estabrook, who settled there in 1783. Later, their farm was owned and occupied by James W. Fulton. It was in the "Chase District", in the north-west part of the town.

He left the "Old Brown farm", (where his mother was b in 1792) in 1856, and removed to East Granville, Vt. Here he m Emma Tarbell, a daughter of Daniel Tarbell, of South Royalton.

At this place, he was selectman, recruiting officer, and postmaster. In Nov. 1863, he removed to Lunenburg, Mass. He has taught school in Michigan, Vermont and Mass., in all, during 28 years. At Lunenburg he was selectman, and school committee, much of the time from 1868 to 1883, and was elected a Representative of Fitchburg and Lunenburg in 1876.

In the Legislature, he served on the committee to re-district the State into Congressional and Senatorial districts, and was secretary of the sub-committee for Wor-

chester Co., and practically, did the whole of the Senatorial division.

Their children are:—

Viola May (7), a teacher, and Athileas Gertrude (7), whom Martin A. Seymour, and they had a son, Bruce (8).

Mr. and Mrs. Seymour are both teachers, and are located at Tilton, N. H.

Dr. Ripley Clark.

Dr. Ripley Clark, one of the most prominent physicians of Vermont, died at his residence in Windsor, Apr. 23, 1900.

He was born in Strafford, Vt., in 1817. He studied medicine with the late Prof. Edward E. Phelps, M. D., of Windsor, and graduated at Dartmouth Medical College in 1846, with high honors.

He located in Reading in 1847, and lived at first in the house now occupied by Dr. Kinson, and built and used as an office, the small building on the opposite side of the street, now occupied by Geo. F. Edson. He last resided in the brick house now occupied by Mrs. Sarah E. Wardner. He married Mary A. Raymond, of Bridgewater, Aug. 9, 1848, daughter of Hon. Isaiah Raymond, and the result of the union was one son, Isaiah Raymond Clark, born Jan. 1, 1853, at Reading, graduated at Dartmouth College, is now a practicing attorney in Boston, Mass., and a leading member of the Bar.

After practicing medicine in Reading and Demont, now Creston, in Ogle County, in Illinois, and at Hartford, Vt. Dr. Clark located in Windsor, Vt., in 1861, and built up a successful practice, being most skilful in surgery, in which he was often called. He continued in active practice at Windsor, until near the time of his death.

He was a half-brother of the late Prof. Alonzo Jackson, of Norwich University. He was not an office seek-

er, but was elected to the Vermont Legislature in 1880, as the representative of Windsor. He was at one time President of the Windsor National Bank. He was medical director of the state's prison for twenty years.

He had long been a member of the Baptist Church, in Windsor, and a most liberal contributor to its financial needs.

CHAPTER XX.

Albert Eastman ; Corydon M. Fay ; Ida M. (Cole) Fay.

Albert Eastman, son of Amos and Joanna (Buell) Eastman, was b in Newport, N. H., Nov. 29, 1818. He was the youngest in a family of six children, the place of his birth being on the farm where his grand-father, Benj. Eastman, 2nd, settled, when he came to Newport, from Boscowen, N. H., in 1781. The farm is situated on the Unity road, and has been in the Eastman name for five generations.

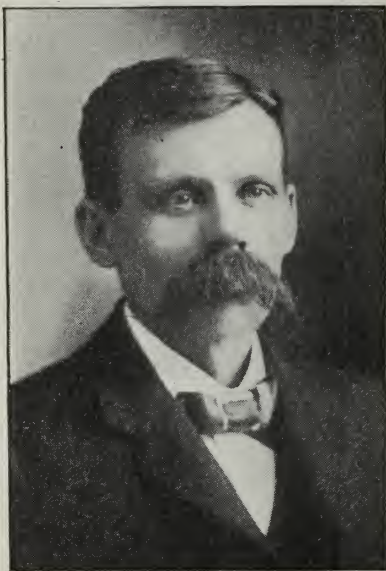
He is the direct descendant and the sixth generation from Roger Eastman, who came to this country from England in 1640, and settled at Salisbury, Mass.

His early life was spent in the town of his birth, and his education was acquired in its public schools, and in a select school in the town of Lempster, where it was his pleasure to be the pupil of the late Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., of Boston, Mass.

At the age of 21, he went to Boston, Mass., where he was in business two and one-half years. Returning to Newport, N. H., he was m in Nov., 1843, to L. Lucinda Wood, of Hartland, Vt. Here he made his home until Jan., 1857, when he moved with his wife and two children, to So. Woodstock, where their youngest child was b.

On March 5, 1866, he again moved with his family to Reading, Vt., onto a farm purchased of the late Rufus and Fidelia Forbush, where he lived until the time of his death, on March 3, 1896. As the larger part of his life had been spent on a farm, he was considered a thorough farmer in every sense of the word, being always ready to grasp at new ideas, and keeping well out of the time-worn ruts ; and if any of his neighbors thought





C. M. FAY.

him a little fussy about some branch of farm work, they would later on show themselves just as fussy by adopting Uncle Albert's ways. He gained and held the respect of his fellow-townsmen, and was ever ready to help those less fortunate than himself.

In his family he was one of the most indulgent and thoughtful of husbands and fathers, ever mindful of those around him, and always happiest in the home circle, greeting all who came to his door, with a cheerful word and pleasant smile. His late home was deeded by his administrator, in July, 1899, to his two daughters, Arlie E., lately deceased, and Mrs. Henry DeWolf, who, with her husband are the present occupants.

Horace A. Eastman, son of Albert Eastman, was b at Newport, N. H., Nov. 20, 1849, and came to Reading with his parents, and there resided many years, locating in Barnard, Vt., in 1876. He was educated in the common schools, has held the offices of lister, auditor and selectman, and represented Barnard in the Legislature of 1902 and '4, as a Republican.

Annie Eastman was m to Henry DeWolf, at Woodstock, Vt., Aug. 1, 1900, by Rev. J. T. Simmons, and they now reside on the Eastman home farm.

Corydon M. Fay.

Corydon M. Fay, son of Samuel Fay and Louisa Herrick, formerly of Reading, Vt., was b in Weathersfield, Vt., Sept. 30, 1852. His boyhood days were spent on a farm in that town. He received his education in the common schools. At the age of eighteen, he taught school very successfully in the town of Royalton.

In the year of 1871, he embarked in the mercantile business, working for I. Glynn & Sons, at Felchville, continuing with them two years. He was subsequently employed by the late Charles Amsden, at Amsden, Vt., taking charge of his store. In the spring of 1878, he

opened a general merchandise store in Felchville, in the store then owned by Harriet Gates. He afterwards bought the business of O. C. Sawyer, and moved his stock of goods to the brick building in which Chamberlain & Keyes formerly conducted business.

He carried on a successful business, receiving the appointment of Postmaster, which office he held for several years. In politics, Mr. Fay was always a Republican, and was honored with various town offices, and also served as school committee for two years.

In May, 1879, he m Ida May Cole, daughter of Dea. Converse Cole, of Meriden, N. H. They have two sons. Harold Cole, and Maurice Winkley. In 1888, Mr. Fay sold out his business at Felchville, and went to Clinton, Mass., and is now connected with the firm of Fyfer, Fay & Plummer, wholesale and retail grocers, Mr. Fay being the senior partner. In Clinton he has served as a director of the Clinton Co-operative Bank, also as Treasurer of the Clinton Hall Trunk Manfg. Co.

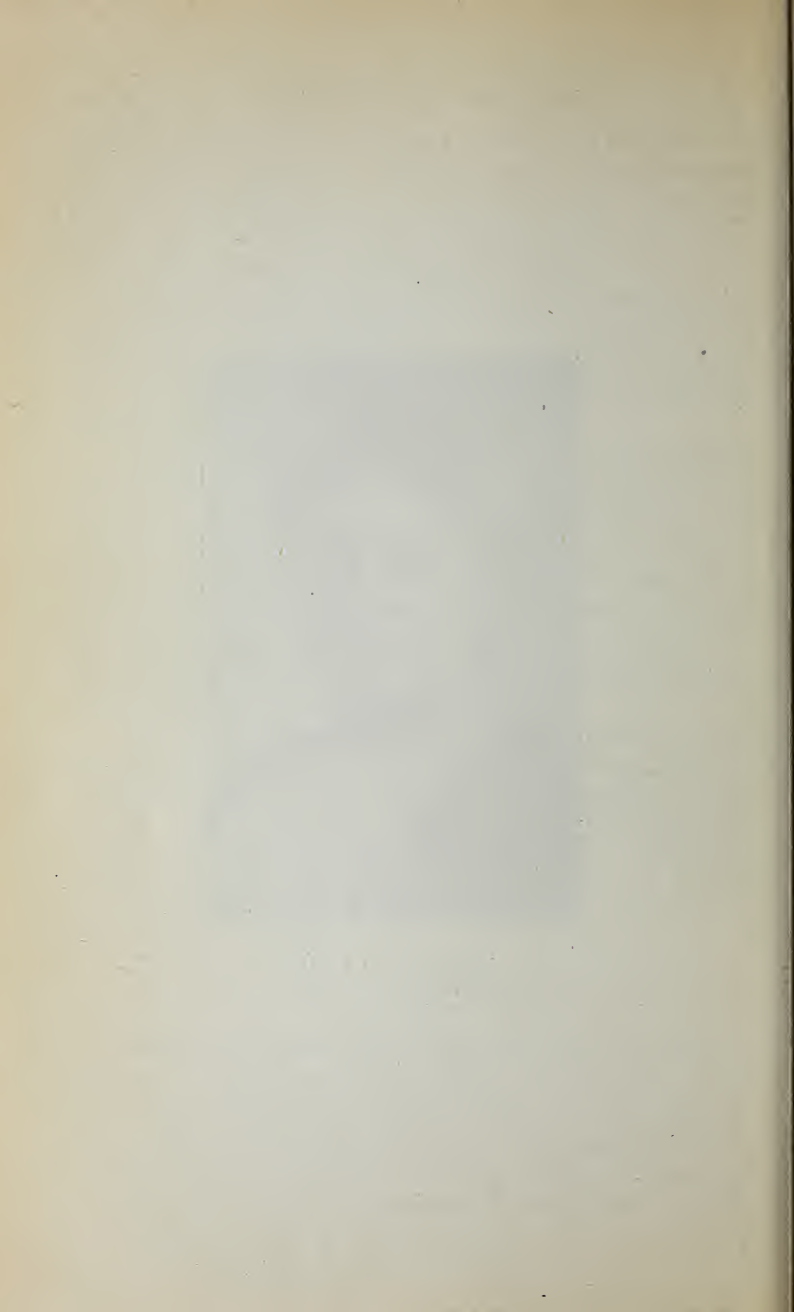
He has been honored by the Baptist church of Clinton, serving for several years as chairman of the Parish committee, and has recently been elected Deacon of his church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Lancaster Lodge, No. 89, also a member of the Camp. While at Felchville, he was an active member of the Baptist church, and a leading member of the choir.

Ida M. (Cole) Fay.

Ida M. (Cole) Fay, wife of Corydon M. Fay, daughter of Dea. Converse Cole and Mary Ann Winkley, was b in Meriden, in the town of Plainfield, N. H., Feb. 3, 1855. She received her education at the Kimball Union Academy, graduating from that institution in the class of 1874. She taught successfully in the public schools of Plainfield, N. H., for several terms. She was m May 28, 1878. to Corydon M. Fay, of Felchville. Vt.



MRS. C. M. FAY.



Mrs. Fay has always figured prominently in musical and social circles, and has always been an active and ardent worker in the Baptist church.

CHAPTER XXI.

The Felch Family; Rufus O. Forbush; Lillian Watkins Fay.

The Felch family, and Lt. Francis Chase.
By Minnie Amsden Coy.

Henry Felch (or Falch, previous to his emigration to America) is of the same descent as the Hughes family Barons of Ederirnon, County Merioneth, Wales, which derives a royal lineage through the ancient Princes of Powys, and the monarchs of North and South Wales, from Roderick the Great, or Rhodri Mawr, twenty eight descents as given in record.

Henry Felch came to this country about 1640. We learn from Babson's History of Gloucester, Mass., that "Henry Felch was here in 1642, and owner of six acres of hoed ground, of which there is no grant in records. From this is inferred that he was a settler before incorporation of the town. He also had a house and land which he sold to James Avery."

His will was duly proved. Henry Felch, Jr., came from Wales with his father. In 1648, Henry Felch's name appears, at first election of highway surveyors. In 1667, there were 59 houses owned by Henry Felch, and others. In a record of lots of pine swamps, as laid out in their several plats, which were drawn Feb. 8, 1692, for west side of town, the first lot came out for Sargent Henry Felch, which was 6 1-2 acres or thereabouts. The next, 18 and 38, to Joseph and John Felch.

Henry, Jr., was selectman of Reading, Mass., in 1647, '48, '51, and '81. (He was generally called Sargent or Sergeant.) In 1686, it appears that the town of Reading had purchased of the Indians, some years prior to this

date, the territory of Reading, for the sum of about £10, but it had not been paid for. This year an assessment was laid to raise money. I find the name of Henry Felch, 2s. 2d., and John Felch, 2d.

In 1688 a subscription for a meeting-house was obtained and the following is a list of the names and contributions of the subscribers:—among others, Sergt. Henry Felch, £2—John Felch, 11s. Henry, Jr., d Nov. 11, 1699. He left three sons, John, Joseph and Daniel.

His eldest son, John, was appointed administrator of his father's estate. John removed from Reading to Weston, shortly after incorporation, in 1709.

Wm. Felch, the next in line of descent noted, the son of Caleb Felch, and Mary Chase, was the founder of Felchville, Vt. This village is in south-east part of the town of Reading, on a branch of Black river. The advent of Wm. Felch to this place in 1826, seems to have given it the first impulse of growth and importance, and the village a more active life.

He was b in Royalton, Mass., Feb. 3, 1797, being a direct descendant of Henry Felch, of Wales, who came to this country as before stated, in 1640, or thereabouts, and was one of the earliest settlers and proprietors of Gloucester, Mass., as stated in Gloucester records.

Wm. Felch came to Windsor, Vt., at the age of fourteen, where he remained four years.

A short sojourn in Ohio, in the winter of 1818, abated his western fever, and induced him to set his face toward the rising sun. He migrated to New York City and there became interested in real estate. He was m at Cavendish, Vt., in 1821, to Bethia Peck, (a descendant of Joseph Peck, of England, who fled with other Puritan brothers to this country, to avoid the persecution of the church.) They lived in New York City, until 1826, when he came to reside in Reading. He built and filled the first store in Felchville, built and kept the first tavern, and also built the first factory building there in 1835.

In 1830 he carried the first mail from Woodstock, Vt., through Felchville, to Charlestown, N. H.

He built fifteen dwelling-houses. In 1832 and '33, he represented the town of Reading, in the State Legislature. He acted as justice of the peace, forty years, selectman, five, lister, twelve, and filled many other town offices. He has owned factories, grocery and dry-goods stores, lime-works, etc. His name has been identified with almost every public act, and probably no one ever exerted a greater or better influence in the town of Reading.

Few men ever enjoyed the confidence of the public to a greater extent than Wm. Felch. His death occurred in 1876; his wife d in 1875, leaving four daughters, all the children they ever had:—Harriet Jane Amsden, who lived for many years in Felchville, Vt.; Calista Smith, who lives in Panama, Nebraska; Mary Kendall, who lived for a long time in Felchville, and at present resides in Ludlow, Vt., the wife of Luther R. Kendall; Emily Chilson, who lives in Hebron, Neb.

Felchville school district was organized at the dwelling of Wm. Felch, he being the first clerk and treasurer. The district by vote, adopted the name of Willshire, which it bore until 1844, when it became No. 10. The first winter school was taught in 1827-'28, by Miss Philetta Wentworth. She had eight pupils, and \$ 1.50 per week, and boarded around.

The first factory building owned by Wm. Felch, dissolved in smoke in 185—. This was a great blow to the business interest of the village, as the inhabitants judged, and accordingly, funds to the amount of nearly \$ 2,500 were raised by subscription, and in 1859, a second building was erected, and in 1860, this was burned.

The third one was built in 1861. The proprietor, Prosper Merrill, obtained a contract to supply the uniforms for the 2nd and 3rd regiments of Vt. Vols., those regiments being at first uniformed in gray. The manu-

factory of this cloth at Felchville was even run on Sundays, to make this cloth under the contract with Governor Fairbanks. Its use was soon abandoned, and the army blue substituted. This factory was burned in 1868. The Felchville Chair Company occupied the site of these woolen-factories, and at time of writing, a box company is doing business there.

Felchville has slowly increased in size and business importance, and now bears the impress of thrift and care. In the summer of 1899, on July 4, Hon. G. A. Davis, (a noted lawyer and former resident of the village) presented formally at dedication of the same, a beautiful and modern building he had caused to be erected at a large expense, for a public library, to be known as the "Gilbert A. Davis Library Building." It also bears the inscription, "Reading Public Library."

The building contains at date of writing, (1902) about two thousand books, the larger part having been given by former residents. A fine crayon portrait of Wm. Felch hangs on the wall of the reading room, being presented July, 1899, by his grand-daughter, Minnie Amsden Coy, of Windsor, Vt.

Felch Marriages.

Henry m Margrett, (both of Wales); John m Hannah (in Wales); Joseph m Elizabeth Gowing, May 25, 1625; Samuel m Kathrine Smith, May 6, 1714; Samuel Jr., m Eunice Walton, Nov. 24, 1743; Caleb m Mary Chase, Sept. 16, 1788; Wm. m Bethia Peck, Oct. 28, 1821; Harriet m Alzamon Amsden, Sept. 9, 1841; Minnie m Dana Coy, Oct. 3, 1883.

Lieut. Francis Chase, grandfather of Wm. Felch, served in the revolutionary war, in Capt. Peter Woodbury's 9th Co., Col. Nathan Sparhawk's 7th Worcester Co., Regt., commissioned Apr. 5, 1776, in Lieut. Jonathan Silsby's Co.; also in Capt. Wm. Mariar's Co.; muster rolls dated Cambridge, May 9, and June 1, 1778.

Samuel Felch, Wm. Felch's great grandfather was also a revolutionary soldier.

Chase.

Aquila Chase came from England ; he was b there in 1618, and d Dec. 27, 1670. He m Ann Wheeler (both English) ; John m Elizabeth Bingley ; Philip m Mary Follansbee ; Lieut. Francis Chase m Mary Perkins ; Mary m Caleb Felch ; Wm. Felch m Bethia Peck.

Caleb Felch, son of Caleb, was b in 1790, in Royalston, Mass., and m Eliza Lockwood, and had four children. He lived on the place just west of Felchville, now occupied by David E. Burnham. He removed to N. Y. City.

Hosea Felch, (son of Caleb) was b in Royalston, Mass., June 17, 1795, d in Felchville, Aug. 9, 1851. He m Asenath A. Griswold, of Springfield, Vt., April 29, 1835, and came at once to Felchville, and bought and always thereafter lived on the farm in Felchville, just south of R. W. Hoadley's. He possessed a superior intellect and very retentive memory.

Their children were all born in Reading. Hosea, Jr., b Dec. 17, 1836, d Aug. 12, 1838 ; Katherine, b Oct. 30, 1838, m Azro White, Nov. 19, 1867 ; Lucinda A., b March 30, 1840, m Geo. M. Clark, Feb. 14, 1858 ; Marietta, b Jan. 26, 1843, d Feb. 22, 1845.

Katherine had no children, but adopted a son, b. Nov. 9, 1867, and named him Howard Cushman White, who now resides in Enfield. N. H., a jeweler. He m Alice M. Currier, Aug. 23, 1894, and they have two children, Nellie Lydia, and Wyman Currier Azro.

Geo. and Lucinda A., have two children, Frank Herbert, b. Aug. 13, 1860 ; Claude Hugh, b Feb. 5, 1863.

Claude Hugh is a moulder and lives at Boston, Mass. He m Rosamond Harrington, of Salisbury, Vt., July 3, 1884. They have two children, Harold Wentworth and Gertrude Winifred.

Nathan Felch, brother of Caleb, Sr., was b at Wakefield, Mass., and brought up in Reading, Mass., and removed to Reading, Vt., where he m for his second wife, Sally Wilkins, and lived near the Ezra Fay house in Felchville, and near his nephew, Wm. Felch. He was a carpenter and joiner, and at one time was a Free Will Baptist minister, but later in life, adopted and preached the Universalist faith.

His daughter, Miss Rosetta Felch, of Charlestown, N. H., writes of him : "He was at times talkative, jocular, and fond of story telling ; at other times he would "sit for hours in silent meditation : he spent much of his "time, when unable to labor, studying the bible and "comparing passages in different parts."

Rufus O. Forbush.

From the Springfield Reporter.

Rufus O. Forbush was b in Reading, Oct. 7, 1824—the son of Rufus Forbush, and brother of Charles A. Forbush.

He d at Springfield, Vt., June 29, 1899.

He worked on his father's farm in Reading until he was of age, when he went to Claremont and learned the trade of a silversmith. He soon set up business for himself in Worcester, Mass., where he remained for ten years, being for some time a member of the Common Council of that city. After a season spent in the South on account of failing health, he came to Springfield, and was associated with his brother in the mercantile business, in which he continued until they sold out in 1863.

Since that time he has lived on his estate in Springfield, has held most of the town offices, and has settled a great many important probate matters to the satisfaction of all concerned.

He was the senior director of the First National Bank (having served since 1877,) of which he was presi-

dent at the time of his death. He had for over thirty years been a member of the Congregational Church.

Although never of vigorous bodily health, he was spared the confinements of long sickness and the infirmities of age. A reserved, thoughtful man, he was a constant reader of current events, a conservative thinker, and a cheerful and kindly observer of life. His integrity was undoubted, and his religious faith was still and deep.

June 9, 1863, he married Eliza A. Spencer, of this town, whose death preceded his own by nearly two years. His three sons survive him.

The funeral services were held at his late home conducted by Dr. Davis, of the Congregational church. The Banks of the town were closed during the funeral service, and the officers attended.

The Directors of the National, of which he was president, acted as pall bearers.

Lillian Watkins Fay,

whose name is borne upon the tablets of college and university graduates, in the Reading Library, is the daughter of Collamer T., and Carrie (Watkins) Fay, and was b at Reading, Dec. 22, 1862, graduated from Windsor high school in 1879, from Holyoke high school in 1882, and from Smith college in 1887, with the degree A. B., and received the degree of A. M., from the same college in 1894. She studied at Cornell University in the summer of 1897, and in 1902 was teaching in the Holyoke high school as second vice-principal, or head of the women teachers, and head of English department.

CHAPTER XXII

The Hawthorne Family,
By Collins Hawthorne.

The founders of the Hathorne family in America, were William and John Hathorne, the sons of William Hathorne, of Binfield, Berkshire Co., England. These men wrote their name "Hathorne," and pronounced it Hawthorne, and the ancestors and descendants of these men have written the name in many ways, a few of which are the following: Haughthorne, Hawthorne, Hauthorne, Hathorn, Hathhorne, Haythorne, Hothorne, etc.

The original name of the family was Hawthorne but four or five generations ago, the w and e were omitted from the name, though the pronunciation was retained a generation or two longer, and now a part of the present members of the family, annoyed by a name that is almost always misunderstood and mispronounced, and still oftener mis-spelled, are resuming the original and proper spelling and pronunciation.

John Hathorne came to this country in 1635, and settled in Salem, Mass. One of the great grandsons of John, was Collins, who m Sarah Deane, of Wilmington, Mass., in 1760, and settled in Jaffrey, N. H. They had eleven children, of whom four, Benjamin, Olive, Samuel and Polly settled in Reading. Olive m Eliakim Davis; b in 1776, d in 1844; Samuel, b in 1778, m Flavia Pierce, soon removed to Bridgewater, d about 1845; Polly never m, removed to Marilla, N. Y., in 1856, and d in 1870; Benjamin was b in 1761, in Wilmington, Mass., m Rhoda Carleton, March, 1787; Benjamin d July 26, 1847, and Rhoda d Jan. 11, 1850.

The children of Benjamin and Rhoda were:—

(1) Benjamin, b Jan. 1, 1788, d Nov. 31, 1813; (2) Ira, b Nov. 9, 1789, d Nov. 24, 1813; (3) Collins, b Sept. 12, 1790, m Rosamond Ranson, Nov. 1, 1821, removed to Alden, N. Y., in 1842, d Jan. 15, 1883; Rosamond d March 10, 1895; (4) Nathaniel, b June 10, 1792, m Anne Estabrook in 1815, d June 30, 1826; Anne d in 1867; (5) Rhoda, b March 4, 1794, m Jonathan Estabrook in 1814, d Nov. 3, 1888, at Marilla, N. Y.; (6) Candace, b Nov. 6, 1795, m Asa Newton, d Sept., 1874; (7) Alvah, b Sept. 2, 1797, m Mandana Holley, settled in New Haven, Vt., d March 11, 1887; Mandana d Oct. 13, 1864; Alvah afterwards m Betsey Holley; (8) Laban, b Oct. 4, 1799, m Mary Weston, d in Barnard, Dec. 30, 1877; (9) Henry C., b Sept. 3, 1801, m Alzina Taylor, d 1894, at Niagara Falls, N. Y.; (10) Hial, b April 14, 1803, m Sally A. Keeler, Nov. 17, 1837; (11) Oliva, b July 31, 1805, d Feb. 27, 1809; (12) Farwell, b Sept. 2, 1807, d Nov. 9, 1827; (13) Naham, b Jan. 21, 1809, m Mary Ann Ferris, Oct. 30, 1845, d in 1855; (14) Verrenus, b Feb. 12, 1811, m Mary Ann Cady, April 3, 1837; Mary Ann d in 1842, and Verrenus m Annis Johnson, March 16, 1843, removed to Marilla, N. Y., in 1856, d in Elma N. Y., Jan. 19, 1871; Annis d in 1893.

Collins had two children, Dennis C., b in Reading, March 22, 1826, living in Palisades, Col.; and Ira B., b in Reading, May 16, 1836, living in Alden, N. Y.

Nathaniel had three children b in Reading, Benjamin, b in 1816, d in So. Woodstock; Ira, settled in Terre Haute, Ind., d there in 1834; Electa m Joel Slack, and d in Plymouth, Vt.

Rhoda had three daughters, all b in Reading, Oliva, b in 1815, d in Marilla, N. Y., in 1845; Fidelia, b in 1819, living in Marilla; Rosomond, b in 1825, d in Cowlesville, N. Y.

Candace had three sons, all b in Reading, Marcus, Hial, and Morris Newton.

Laban had two sons and one daughter b in Read-

ing, Curtis, b about 1829, living in Barnard ; Colbert, b about 1830, living in Weathersfield ; Laura Ann, b about 1833, m Joseph Smith, d in So. Woodstock.

Henry C. had six children, Jane Ann, d in childhood ; Angelia and Annette d later in Addison Co.; Jannette m Ross Wickware, living at Niagara Falls ; Wallace and Farwell served in the civil war, living in the West.

Verrenus had three daughters b in Reading, Ella d in infancy ; Mary m Chas. Kendall, living in Buffalo ; Ella m F. G. Bullis, d in Lancaster, N. Y., in 1898.

Collins Hawthorne,

By J. B. Hawthorne, of Alden, N. Y.

Collins Hawthorne d Jan. 15, 1883, at Alden, N. Y., aged ninety-two years and four months. He was b in Reading, Sept. 12, 1790, and passed the first fifty-two years of his life in his native town, and then in 1842, removed to Alden, twenty miles from Buffalo, N. Y., where he resided until his death.

Few men have reached the age of ninety-two years, and lived a more quiet and uneventful life. His long residence in Reading was confined to one neighborhood, most of the time on the farm now owned by Wade Keyes, just above Hammondsville, on the rocky hillsides of which he toiled early and late for many a long year, the principal relief in the monotony of his Reading farm life being an annual or semi-annual trip to Boston with a load of produce, which formed the event of the year.

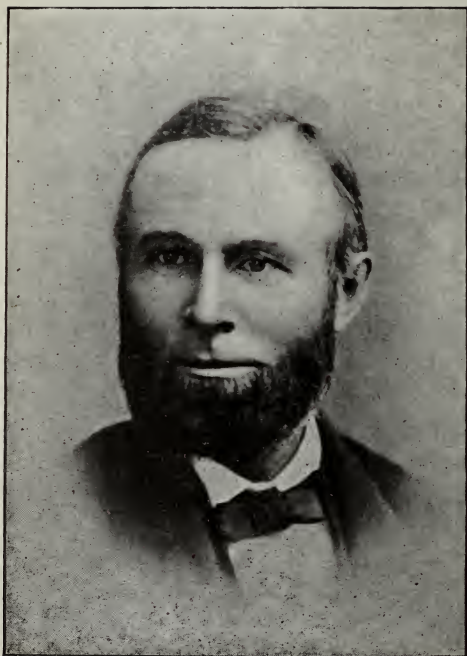
Even his removal to Alden was an event which would seem the climax of dullness to the emigrant of to-day, for he came with his own team, there being no railroad except a part of the way. He and his family made a visit to Alden the autumn before his removal there, but the grand old hills of his native town had grown so much higher and steeper, and the rocks so much bigger

during his absence, that in a few weeks he came back to Alden and bought a farm, on which he lived to the time of his death, nearly forty-one years.

One prominent characteristic of the deceased, was his love for his native state. No Scottish lassie, alone on the shores of a new continent, ever dwelt with more reverence or devotion on the memory of the "lowland dale" or "highland glen" of her nativity than did this matter-of-fact, unsentimental gentleman, dwell upon the recollections associated with Old Vermont. Some years after he had passed four score, the centennial history of his native town was brought to him, and for years it was his almost constant companion. Day and evening he sat with it open before him, or lying closed on his lap, ever too precious a reminder of scenes and people in his native Green Mountain State.

Mr. Hawthorne, in walking from his chair to his bed, fell and broke his hip, which confined him to his bed the remainder of his days.

Four nephews of Mr. Hawthorne have resided in Windsor County with their families, Benjamin Hawthorne, of South Woodstock, Curtis Hawthorne, of Barnard, d Colbert Hawthorne, of Weathersfield and Morris Newton, of Reading; but for a record of those who are not living in this numerous family, the old grave-yard at Bailey's Mills furnishes a mournful page.



MERRITT E. GODDARD.

CHAPTER XXIII

Biographical Sketches, Continued.

Merritt E. Goddard ; Rev. Horace Herrick ; The Herrick Family ; Jabez D. Hammond, LL.B.; Judge Thomas F. Hammond.

Merritt E. Goddard,
By Albert N. Swain.

Merritt Elton Goddard, son of Hiram and Mary (Ackley) Goddard, was b in Reading, Feb. 11, 1834. His grandfather was Dea. Aaron Goddard, one of the early settlers of Reading who is remembered by some still living as a man of prominence in town, and who was greatly esteemed for his kindness of heart and practical sympathy for the unfortunate.

Mr Goddard received his early education in the common schools, fitted for college in Black River and West Randolph academies, and graduated at Dartmouth college in 1857. He then entered the Divinity school of Harvard University, from which he graduated in 1861 with the purpose of entering the Unitarian ministry, which purpose he was unable to carry out on account of his health, which had been impaired by a fall when he was eleven years of age.

For several years he was superintendent of schools in Reading, represented his town in the Legislature during the war period of 1863 and 1864, and later was a member of the Windsor County board of School Supervisors. After occupying the ancestral homestead for several years he sold the same and moved to Norwich in 1874, where he settled to avail himself of the privileges incident to being near the college from which he gradu-

ated, and for which he always entertained a strong interest and affection.

He was a man of individuality and independent thought and mind on questions of public policy, fine scholarly attainments, took great interest in education and library work, and was employed to write the History of Norwich, by vote of the town. He was also chairman of the board of trustees of the Norwich Public Library Association, which after his death adopted resolutions of respect in their loss of the "honored chairman of trustees", and that "our association has lost a most able and efficient officer, a genial and kind friend and neighbor, the town and state an excellent citizen".

For many years he held the office of Justice of the Peace in both Reading and Norwich. Broad in his views for the general diffusion of intelligence he was an occasional contributor to the press, and his physical infirmities did not prevent him from being a useful citizen.

Mr. Goddard m Amanda S. Keyes, April 14, 1868, who d Dec. 3, 1870. March 20, 1872, he m Mrs. Lorette Swain Whitten.

He d at his home in Norwich, Dec. 14, 1891.

Horace Herrick

son of David and Mary (Buswell) Herrick, was b at Peacham, Vt., May 11, 1807. Fitted at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N. H. Principal of Jaffrey (N. H.) Academy, 1834-'6; Lawrence Academy, Groton, Mass., 1836-'40; Pepperell (Mass.) Academy, 1840-'1; Frankestown (N. H.) Academy, 1841-'4. Studied theology meanwhile with Rev. Dr. J. M. Whiton, of Antrim, N. H. Pastor of Congregational church, Fitzwilliam, N. H., Sept. 4, 1844, to Sept. 15, 1847.

Taught at Richmond, Va., 1847-'8; Principal of Washington Co. Grammar school, Montpelier, Vt., four and a half years, from Aug., 1849; agent of Vermont Bible Society for a year, and then for several years, was

in poor health. Was acting pastor of Plainfield, Vt., May, 1857 to 1859; Wolcott, Vt., Feb., 1860 to April, 1874; York, Neb., 1875-'6; South Woodbury, Vt., 1877-'79. He resided thereafter, at Felchville, Vt., until deceased. Supt. schools at Wolcott, 1863-'9, 1870-'4; member of legislature, 1861-'2; trustee of University of Vt., and State Agricultural college, some years from 1865. Married in Boston, Mass., Dec. 1, 1836, to Aurelia, daughter of William and Susannah (Smith) Townsend, of Reading, Vt., who survived him, without children. He d in Felchville, Vt., Jan. 31, 1891, of pneumonia.

His wife d at Felchville, Vt., July 5 1891.

The Herrick Family,

By Osgood Herrick, of Sycamore, Ill.

Ebenezer Herrick, son of Ebenezer, was b in Reading, Mass., March 2, 1783, and removed with his father to Marlboro, N. H., in Feb., 1794, where he grew to manhood. He resided a short time in Cavendish and Proctorsville, and finally settled in Reading, Vt., where he d March 11, 1842. He m first in 1805, Arvilla Hall, of Keene, N. H., who d two or three years after, without children.

He m. second, June 6, 1810, Polly Nye. Their children were :—(1) Louisa, b July 9, 1811, m Samuel Fay, of Weathersfield, Vt.; (2) Lucretia, b Oct. 18, 1813, m June 15, 1840, Josiah Fitch, of Pottersville, Cheshire County, N. H., where she d in 1901.; (3) Mary, b Jan. 16, 1815, d May 3, 1863, m June 1839, Rev. Ira Beard, of Northfield, Vt., Methodist Clergyman; (4) Emily G., b April 6, 1818, d June 18, 1842; (5) Marcellus Aurelius b Aug. 27, 1822; (6) Eliza Jane, b Feb. 11, 1831, d Aug. 7, 1870.

Rev. Marcellus A. Herrick, d Oct. 31, 1875. Clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church; ordained to

the deaconship, June 16, 1847; admitted to the Priesthood in 1848, and called to the rectorship of St. James Church, Woodstock, Vt.; removed Feb., 1861, to the charge of Trinity Church, of Tilton, N. H.

The Degree of D. D. was conferred on him by Hobart college, Geneva, N. Y.; he m June 4, 1844, Hannah A., daughter of Israel and Hannah (Andrew) Putnam; children:—Lizzie Adelaide, b July 20, 1851; Charles Putnam, b Nov. 8, 1854; Frank Hobart, b Nov. 19, 1858.

Henry Herrick, brother of Ebenezer, was b in Reading, Mass., June 9, 1787, d Nov. 29, 1832. Went first to Boston, removed to Reading, Vt., farmer; m Lydia, widow of Daniel Dodge, of North Danvers, Mass., maiden name, Grover; children:—Mary A., b July 29, 1823, m Michael Weston, of Reading; Harriet M., b Dec. 27, 1824, m Merrill Mason, of Marlboro, N. H., and she d about 1898, or '9; Henry Osgood, b Feb. 4, 1829, resides at Anderson, S. C.; he received the degree of A. B., at Norwich University Vt., in 1853; A. M. in course; teacher until 1864; Assessor Internal Revenue, Third Collection District, of S. C., 1867-'8-'9; m Jane B. Heard, of Vernon, Vt. Children.—Beulah C., b July 29, 1861.

Ebenezer Herrick and Henry, his brother, were of the 6th generation, from Henry Herrick, who was b at Bean Manor, County of Leicester, England, in 1604, and came to America when quite young, first to Virginia, finally to Salem, Mass. He and his wife were among 30, who founded the first church in Salem, in 1629.

Henry J. Hewlett

was for a long time a citizen of Reading. He was a native of West Windsor. In Dec., 1854, he m Alzina A. Kendall, daughter of Luther Kendall, and the result of that union was one son, Ed K. Hewlett. On March 16, 1897, Mr. Henry J. Hewlett was m to Esther L. Fay,

who survives him. He d Oct. 30, 1897, aged 63 years.

Mr. Hewlett was identified with all the best movements in Felchville, being particularly active in the church, of which for many years he was parish clerk and deacon. The newly renovated church stands as a monument to his untiring zeal, for he, with but a few others, did the work necessary to make the building an attractive and beautiful one. He loved the faith he professed, walked in the light and was one to whom the things of religion were dear. The remains were laid to rest in the cemetery at Felchville, overlooking the peaceful valley where he lived so many years ; and those intimately associated with him in life followed him, glad to testify to the very last, of his worth and friendship.

The Hapgood Family,
By Alice L. Hapgood,
of Bellows Falls.

The Hapgoods were one of the first and prominent families in Reading.

David Hapgood, Esq., being of the first settlers. He was a direct descendant of Shadrach Hapgood who came from England in 1656, at the age of 14 years. He was killed by the Indians at Brookfield, 1675. He was a young man of enterprise, and early laid the foundation of the spacious and fertile landed estates which so many of his descendants have enjoyed quite down to the present day.

Daniel Hapgood was b May 10, 1757. He was distinguished for enterprise, courage, energy and perseverance. At the age of 22 years he left home, and purchased a large tract of land, twelve miles west of Windsor, Vt., near the center of the present town of Reading, and immediately commenced improvements. Then there were only two families in the region, each miles in opposite directions from his location. Here he labored

alone during the first season ; but ere he had completely secured his little harvest, news reached him that the settlements on the frontier had been laid waste by Indians from Canada, and many out of the inhabitants, were massacred and taken captive.

Trusting in solitude for defense, he did not flee, until returning to his cabin after a temporary absence, he found the savages had plundered it of meat left over the fire, and such other articles as they most coveted. He now hastily struck his tent, returning to Massachusetts, spending the winter of 1778-'9, in enlisting his brother Thomas and other young men of Worcester County, to accompany him back in the spring. Here through privations and hardships no longer experienced by planters of new countries, they prepared the way for a large and prosperous settlement, which was organized in 1780, and he was elected selectman and constable.

The future historian of Reading cannot fail to recognize him as one of her most efficient founders. He and his brother Thomas purchased, June 5, 1780, one whole right of land in the Township of Reading, Vt., consideration £150 lawful money. David bought of Thomas a tract of land, consideration £1,185 lawful money. June 27, 1781, David erected the first framed building, and opened the first tavern in the place, and the first town meetings were held in his house. He was early chosen Representative, and for a series of years served as Magistrate. As his children attained their majority, he proceeded to divide to them his estate, giving to each of the elder sons, 100 acres of the south part of his farm, and to the third son his homestead, etc. He lived to see all his family comfortably settled in life.

He m in 1781, Sally Myrick, of Princeton, Mass., b April 6, 1762, d Aug. 7, 1826 ; he d July 3, 1829. Their children were :—John, b Dec. 11, 1782, at Princeton, m March 2, 1808, Sally Amsden, of Reading, Vt., daughter of Abel Amsden, b Aug. 19, 1782, and who d April

16, 1881, aged 99 years. He d April 16, 1881; David, b Feb. 20, 1786, m, Jan. 1, 1818, Sally Kimball, who d Feb. 15, 1875. He d Nov. 30, 1859; Sally Myrick, b June 8, 1788, m, Dec. 25, 1815, Edmund Durrin, Esq., of Weathersfield, Vt., who d Feb. 22, 1837. She d in Reading, July 3, 1855; Lucinda, b June 28, 1790, m, Feb. 2, 1812, Jared Bigelow, who d Aug. 2, 1856. She d Oct. 21, 1835; Betsey, b Jan. 21, 1793, d Aug. 28, 1745; Artemas, b July 16, 1795, m, Feb. 27, 1823, Rebecca Fay, of Reading, daughter of Hanniah Fay. He d June 21, 1837. His widow m Solomon Yuran, of Tunbridge; Fidelia, b Aug. 20, 1797, m, March 14, 1822, Capt. Rufus Forbush, son of Rufus Forbush of Westboro, Mass.; Bridgman, b Aug. 13, 1799, m Elizabeth Morrison, April 19, 1829; she d Feb. 9, 1830. He m, second, Laura Weston, who d Oct. 24, 1860. He d Jan. 8, 1877. The firm of Hapgood & Prentiss, (comprising B. Hapgood & S. Prentiss) in Reading, was in mercantile business at the Center, and was dissolved May 14, 1835. They were succeeded by the firm of Prentiss, Wood & Co. Their place of business was at the Center also. Lucy, b June 28, 1802, d 1806; Dexter, b April 14, 1807, d unmarried at Dubuque, Iowa, Aug. 30, 1847.

Jabez D. Hammond, LL.B.,
was b at New Bedford, Mass., Aug. 2, 1778, and was settled as a physician at Reading, in 1779. He removed to Cherry Valley, N. Y., and he became a lawyer in 1805, where he attained eminence as a public man and author. He was a Democratic member of Congress in 1815-17, a state senator in 1817-21, a County Judge in 1838, and one of the Regents of the University of N. Y., 1845 to 1855. He was the author of "James Melbourne" (1851); "Political History of New York" (1849-3 vols.); "Life of Silas Wright" (1848). He d Aug. 18, 1855.

Judge Thomas F. Hammond

was b in Reading, and was for many years a resident of the north western part of the town. He was a farmer, surveyor, Justice of the Peace and man of general affairs.

He was elected in 1835, as the Judge of the Probate Court for the District of Windsor, and held that office by successive annual elections, until 1848, inclusive.

He subsequently resided in West Windsor and in Chester, and d in the last named town. He had a large family of boys, but the family record has not been furnished to the editor.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Biographical Sketches, Continued.

Abigail Keyes; Daniel S. Mahoney; Helen Kent Robinson; Hannah Bolles Merrill; Morgan Family.

Ancestors of Abigail Keyes, who married Capt. William A. Hawkins.

I Robert Keyes settled at Watertown, Mass., before 1633, (probably in 1630) when the birth of his first child is recorded there. His wife was Sarah ———.

He moved to Newbury, Mass., about 1643, and his death is there recorded as July 16, 1647. The births of six children are recorded in Watertown and Newbury. He probably had more. His widow m John Gage, and d in 1680.

II Elias, youngest son of Robert. b in 1643, at Watertown, Mass., m, Sept. 11, 1665, Sarah, daughter of John Blanford, or Blanchard, and lived in Sudbury, Mass.

III Deacon John Keyes, supposed to be a son of the foregoing, lived in Lancaster, Mass., and Shrewsbury, Mass. B in 1668, (?) d in 1748. (?)

IV John, Jr., b 1712, m Abigail, daughter of Dea. John Livermore, Nov. 26, 1741, and had twelve children. His daughter Abigail, m William A. Hawkins, of Northboro, Mass., Oct. 1, 1765. She was b Dec. 26, 1743, and d Feb. 24, 1813. Wm. A. Hawkins then lived in Northboro, Mass., in Essex County, about 35 miles from Boston.

Livermore Family.

- I John, b 1604 or '6, m Grace ———;
- II Samuel, b 1640, m Anna Bridge, June 14, 1688 ;
- III Jonathan, b 1678, m Rebecca Barnes, Nov. 23, 1699 ;
- IV (Deacon) Jonathan, b 1700. m Abigail Ball, June 23, 1723 ;
- V Abigail, b 1724, m John Keyes, (b 1712) Nov. 25, 1741 ;
- VI Abigail Keyes, b Dec. 26, 1743, m Wm. A. Hawkins, Oct. 1, 1765.

The Bridge family into which Samuel Livermore m was distinguished for the prominent part it took in educational matters in the early history of the country.

The father of Anna Bridge, was Mathew Bridge, and the grandfather of Anna Bridge, was Deacon John Bridge, who founded the first school ever founded in the Colonies. He founded this school at Cambridge, Mass., and from this school, Harvard College grew. He had a friend named John Harvard, whom he persuaded to give \$8,000 in money to found this college, promising it should bear the name of "Harvard" if he would do so.

Mr. Harvard gave the money, Deacon John Bridge gave lands and through his efforts, the College of Harvard was founded. He is buried in the cemetery in Cambridge, near the old church, and the account of his life is carved on his tombstone. A monument stands to the memory of Deacon John Bridge in the campus at Harvard, erected by Gen. Samuel Bridge, one of his descendants.

The mother of Anna Bridge was Anna Danforth, daughter of Col. Danforth, who was one of the twelve men who were chosen to make the laws, course of study, and were "the Trustees of Harvard College." Thus both Deacon John Bridge and Col. Danforth were two of the twelve men who founded Harvard College and made its laws, and they were both Representatives in the Colonial Congress, and were prominent men in Church and

State.

Helen Kent Robinson

the eldest daughter of Ezra Robinson, was b at South Reading, and d at Minneapolis, Minn., Aug. 17, 1900. She was an accomplished pianist, and celebrated as an instructress upon that instrument. She took an active interest in the prosperity of her native town, and was a liberal donor of books for the Reading public library.

Daniel Sullivan Mahoney.

Daniel Sullivan Mahoney, better known to all old residents of Reading, as "Uncle Dan", d from the effects of an attack of the grip at the home of his grandson, Harry A. Burnham, April 19, 1900, aged 86 years. He was b in Bandon, County Cork, Ireland, and came to Reading Center, about 1833, where he has since made his home. He m, in Windsor, Vt., Hannah Gately Fallon, (who d in 1874) and had four children,—Edmund F., of Amsden; Mary, widow of William W. Keyes; Harriet, deceased, wife of David E. Burnham, and Daniel O.

He was, by occupation, a farm laborer, and had worked for four generations of the Burnham family, and continuously for over fifty years. He was an excellent citizen, industrious, kind-hearted, and much thought of by his neighbors. He never did anyone an injury, and never missed an opportunity to say a pleasant word, or to perform a helpful deed. He never spoke ill of anyone, never shirked his work, and never attempted to do what he was incompetent to perform.

And thus in an humble station, he set an example which brought the regard of all who knew him. His last sickness was his first serious one, and he so retained his bodily and mental powers, that he was enabled to render daily and efficient service to those about him,

down to the end of his life.

And thus was granted the dearest wish of his heart, that he might never be deprived of the delights of labor, but on the contrary, he was of use and never a burden to others. At the time of his death, he was the oldest citizen of the town, and his passing away was like the removal of a beloved landmark, of which, no man's memory recalls the setting up of it.

Austin L. Morgan, son of Simeon and Sabra (Kinney) Morgan, was b in New London, Conn., Aug. 14, 1814. He lived for the most of the time in Connecticut, until 1836, when he came to Vermont, living in Ludlow and Shrewsbury. Followed occupations of farming and shoemaking, until he began the study of medicine with Dr. Horton, in 1857. Graduated at Burlington, Vt., in 1862. Practiced his profession successfully in West Windsor, until 1870, when failing health necessitated his removal, and he went to Somerville, Mass. Returned to Felchville, Vt., in 1872.

Although he did some medical business after his return, his strength failed, and he d Aug. 25, 1874. He m Minerva Hemenway, May 15, 1836; she d Nov. 1, 1886. To them were b 5 children; Samuel H., Sterry A., Mary L., George W., and Lydia I., of whom two are living,—Mary L. Kendall, of Boston, Mass., and Geo. W. Morgan, of Woodstock, Vt.

Samuel Hemenway Morgan, son of Austin L. and Minerva H. Morgan, was b in Shrewsbury, Vt., July 10, 1838. With the exception of a year or two, he always lived in Windsor County. Had a common school education and followed the occupation of farming chiefly, until 1872. He came to Reading from Perkinsville, March 1, 1866, moving on to the farm at Reading Center, known as the Hathorn place.

In 1872, he began the study of medicine with Dr. O. W. Sherwin, in Woodstock. Went to Burlington for his first course and graduated at Dartmouth Medical College, at Hanover, N. H., in 1875.

In September of that year he went to Ludlow, entering into partnership with Dr. J. H. Putnam, continuing with him until 1878, when Dr. Putnam went to locate in Rutland. The remainder of his life was spent in business alone in Ludlow. He worked up a very successful and satisfactory business which he was obliged to give up in the latter part of Oct., 1887. He d from typhoid fever, complicated with pneumonia in Nov., 1887. He m Augusta M. Chilson, of Perkinsville, Sept. 21, 1864.

To them were b five children, four girls and one boy. Three of the girls d in infancy. Two children are now living, Mrs. J. B. Reardon, of Ludlow, and Dr. F. C. Morgan, of Reading.

Field Chilson Morgan, son of Samuel H. and Augusta H. Morgan, was b in Reading, March 1, 1867. When nine years of age, his people moved to Ludlow, Vt., where he lived for the most of the time until the fall of 1887.

Attended the graded schools and Black River Academy, from 1875 to 1885. Graduated from the Medical Department, University of Vermont, 1887. Practiced profession 1 1-2 years, in Plymouth, Vt., and the remaining time in Reading (Felchville). Married Lettis E. McWain, of Plymouth, 1888. They have one child, F. Paul, b March 22, 1902.

Dr. Morgan has been a trustee of the Reading Public Library, and has ever taken an active interest in its success. He is regarded as one of the brightest physicians in Windsor County, and is thoroughly informed in his profession. He has, at times, been called as a witness in trials before a jury in the County Court and other courts, and has shown remarkable skill and learn-

ing.

Hannah (Bolles) Merrill

was b in Rockingham, May 7, 1807. In Dec., 1837, she m Prosper Merrill, who was then superintendent of Earl & Campbell's Mills in Cambridgeport, a small village in her native town. They had one son, John B. Merrill, who d in 1867, at the age of twenty-five years. In 1850, Mr. Merrill purchased a factory in Felchville, where they resided until they went to Woodstock, in 1870.

Since the death of her husband, in 1891, she has lived at her old home, but a short distance from her stepson, F. B. Merrill, who, although a son of Mr. Merrill's first wife, was cared for from childhood by Mrs. Merrill, and knew no other mother.

Mrs. Merrill was kind and sympathetic, and was mindful of her neighbors and friends, and had a kind word for everybody. Although she outlived most of her own kindred, in her last years she was cared for by faithful friends, and wanted for nothing that wealth could purchase.

Mrs. Hannah Bolles Merrill d Nov. 2, 1899, at her home in Woodstock, Vt., aged 91 years and six months. She had been in failing health for some time, and on Tuesday, Oct. 22, she fell and fractured her right hip, which accident usually proves fatal in persons of her age.

CHAPTER XXV.

Biographical Sketches, Continued.

Genealogy of the Robinson Family,

By A. H. Keyes.

Jonathan Robinson was b in Cambridge, Mass., Apr. 20, 1862. He was the son of William Robinson, and the grandfather of Ebenezer Robinson. He purchased a farm near where later occurred the battle of Lexington, in 1706. On this farm, James Robinson, father of Ebenezer R., was b, Aug. 30, 1715. James was the sixth son of Jonathan Robinson. On the same farm, Ebenezer Robinson (my great grandfather) was b, Feb. 14, 1765.

He entered the Colonial service at the time of the Revolution when only sixteen years of age, served on an American ship, was taken prisoner, confined on the old British prison ship, Jersey, was released, and afterward served in the army again. (See History of Reading Centennial).

He came to Reading in 1788, cleared away the forests in So. Reading, and made himself a farm. He m Hannah Ackley, Nov. 18, 1792, and they passed a long and peaceful life on this farm. She was b in 1771, and d Feb. 8, 1857, aged 86 years, and two months. He d Oct. 31, 1857, aged 92 years, and eight months. Marvin Robinson, his son, (and my grandfather) was b March 24, 1800, in So. Reading, Vt. He m Lucinda Fullum, Oct. 11, 1826, by whom he had seven children. They were (1) Franklin Marvin, b Aug. 2, 1828, d March 25, 1885; (2) Edwin Aurelius, b Oct. 18, 1829, d Nov. 8, 1892; (3) Charles Henry, b July 18, 1831; (4) Wallace Fullum, b Dec. 22, 1832; (5) Forest Alonzo, b May 29, 1835, d March 19, 1836, aged 10 months; (6) Maria Frances, b Jan. 2, 1837; (7) Elmore Duane, b July 15, 1838, d Dec. 4, 1893, 7 P. M. All b in So. Reading, Vt.

Lucinda, first wife of M. Robinson, d Nov. 25, 1839,

aged 42 years, and two months, having been b Sept. 13, 1797. Marvin Robinson m his second wife, Charlotte Wood, Sept. 22, 1840. She was b May 2, 1816, at Hartland, Vt., and was the daughter of Jonathan and Betsey Wood. She d April 14, 1889, aged 74. Their children were :—Elroy Clement, b Jan. 30, 1844, d Oct. 28, 1885, aged 41; Delia Ada, b Jan. 24, 1847, d Oct. 29, 1851, aged 4 years, and nine months; Addie Lestina, b Nov. 7, 1852, d Aug. 9, 1873, aged 20 years, and nine months; All b in So. Reading, Vt. Marvin Robinson d Dec. 22, 1866, aged 66 years, eight months, and twenty-eight days. He spent his life principally, if not wholly, in So. Reading, and there kept a tavern and devoted much time to farming.

William Robinson, father of Jonathan Robinson, probably resided in Bristol, England, and afterward emigrated to Watertown, Mass. He was b about 1640, m about 1668. His wife was Elizabeth Cutter, b in Cambridge, Mass., July 15, 1645, the daughter of Richard Cutter, of Cambridge, Mass., by his first wife, Elizabeth Williams, who was the daughter of Elizabeth (Stalham) Williams, and was b in England. Her father, Robert Williams, was b in England, so the record of Wm. Williams, of Hatfield, England, says. The embarkation record reads "April 8, 1637, Robert Williams Cordwyner (Cordwyner was a shoemaker) of Norwich Co., Norfolk, England, in the "John and Dorothy" of Ipswich, William Andreas, master, For New England to inhabit."

In the history of Lexington, by Hudson, I find as follows,—“Jonathan Robinson, son of William Robinson, b in Cambridge, April 20, 1682. I find on a copy of the will of Richard Cutter, of Cambridge, made a short time before his death, in 1693, this endorsement “For the two Robinsons, grandsons of the deceased.” This paper being found among papers left by Jonathan Robinson, and Richard Cutter having several daughters, one of them may have m a Robinson. It appears by a deed in pos-

session of the family, that Isaac Powers, of Cambridge, sold to Jonathan Robinson, of Cambridge, Mass., in 1706, a lot of land at Cambridge Farms, bounded easterly, by land of Joanna Winship, westerly, by land of the heirs of Samuel Winship, northerly, by Concord Road, and southerly, by the land of John Dickenson.

This and other deeds of land to Jonathan Robinson, bounded by the Winship's, Whitmore's and Bowman's, leaves no doubt but that he resided on, or near the place now occupied by Mr. Jonas Gamwell at the termination of Oak street, house now burned.

Jonathan Robinson m Ruth ———, and probably came to the "Farms" about 1706. He d in 1753, and she d April 25, 1759. He filled the honorable office of tything-man in 1735, and in 1744 was on a committee to dignify and seat the meeting house. Children of Jonathan and Ruth Robinson were—

(1) Jonathan, b July 25, 1707 ; (2) Ruth, b June 29, 1709, d Oct. 23, 1722 ; (3) Abigail, b Feb. 4, 1711, m Nathaniel Bacon, of Lexington ; (4) James, (my great-great grandfather) b Aug. 30, 1715, m in 1751, Elizabeth Trask ; she was b April 21, 1725 ; (5) Lydia, b. Aug. 29, 1718, m Caleb Simonds ; (6) Hannah, b Jan. 8, 1721.

James Robinson, (my great-great-grandfather) m 2nd wife, Margaret —, by whom he had 8 children. He was admitted to the Church March 10, 1765. She d Nov. 5, 1769 and he m 3rd, Elizabeth —, by whom he had three children. He d Aug. 12, 1774. Children were—

(1) Ruth b Jan, 28, 1753 ; (2) Joseph b March 18, 1755, m Mrs. Betty Hadley ; (3) Silas, b Feb. 20, 1757, m (4) Asa, b Jan. 19, 1759, was in the Campaign to New York, in 1776 ; (5) James b Nov. 26, 1760, m May 25, 1787, Judith Reed, of Woburn. He was a soldier in the Continental Army. ; (6) Rhoda, b May 10, 1763, d young ; (7) Ebenezer, b Feb. 14, 1765 ; d at So. Reading, Vt., Oct. 31, 1757, aged 92 years, 8 months ; (8) Parsis, baptized Feb. 1, 1767, b Jan. 25, 1767. Children

of James by his wife Elizabeth were—(9) Rhoda baptized Oct. 20, 1771, m May 24, 1791, Simeon Snow; (10) Lydia, baptized Jan. 5, 1772, b Jan. 2, 1772; (11) Jonas baptized Dec. 1, 1773, b May 18, 1770.

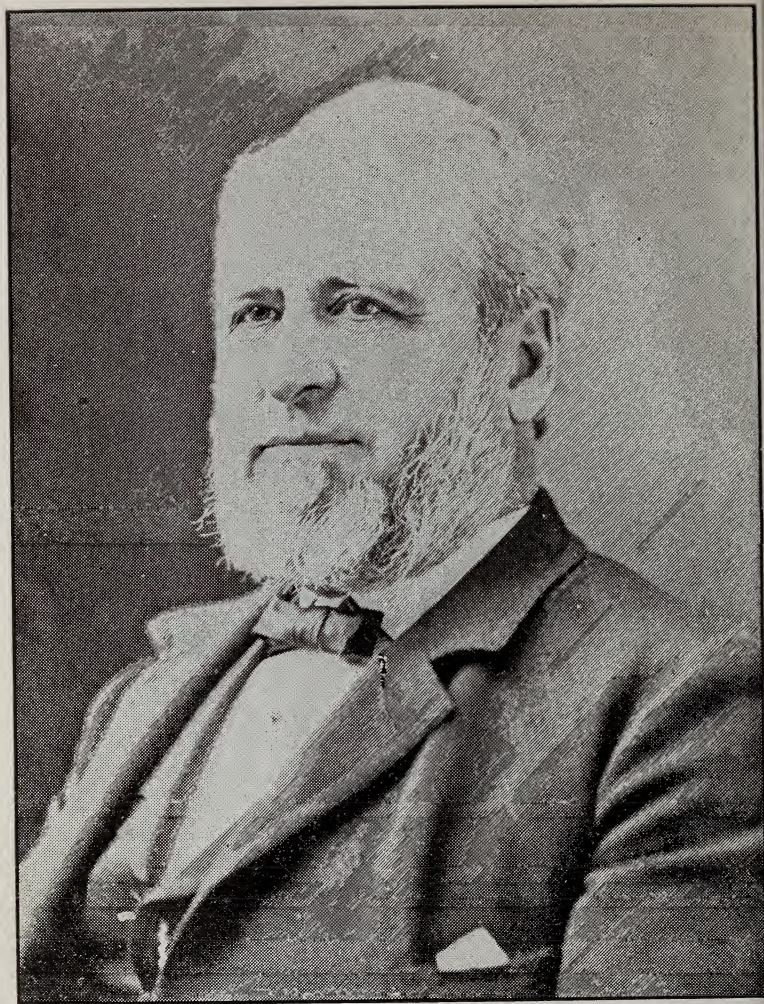
Children of Ebenezer and Hannah Robinson were—(1) Lewis, b Aug. 19, 1793, d Nov. 16, 1871; (2) Marvin, b May 24, 1800, d Dec. 22, 1866; (3) Rhoda, b Feb. 8, 1790, d Oct. 21, 1873; (4) Hannah, b Jan. 20, 1805, d April 19, 1873; (5) Ebenezer, Jr., b Dec. 30, 1808, d July 5, 1848; (6) Eliza, b May 20, 1807, d Dec. 13, 1860; (7) Calvin, b Jan., 13, 1798, d Mar. 28, 1819; (8) Sally S., b Sept. 19, 1802, d Oct. 6, 1816. All b in Reading.

In the History of Cambridge, by Lucius R. Page, I find Wm. Robinson, (my great-great-great-grandfather) by wife Elizabeth, had children—

(1) Elizabeth; (2) Hannah, b Concord, July 3, 1671, d there Oct. 5, 1672 (called Ann); (3) Wm., b July 10, 1673; (4) Mercy, b Aug. 7, 1676; (5) Dana, b May 23, 1678, (lame and helpless in 1695); (6) Samuel, b April 20, 1680; (7) Jonathan, b April 20, 1682, (my great-great-great-grandfather).

William, the father, was styled sometimes of Cambridge and sometimes of Watertown, Mass. He executed a will May 27, 1693, which was presented for probate June 26, 1693, but disallowed on account of its informality at which date all the children except Hannah were living. Jonathan (the 7th child of William) was a weaver, and resided in Lexington. His will, dated Feb. 2, was proved Feb. 8, 1754. His wife, Ruth, survived him. From the History of Watertown, Mass., I quote Administratorship of Estate of Wm. Robinson, granted to son William, Oct. 21, 1695, inventory dated Aug. 14, 1695, £43—17s.

The will of Wm. R., dated March 22, 1694, mentions son William (3rd child) of Newton, May 16, 1698, Samuel and Nathaniel Sparhawk appointed guardians of Samuel R., aged 18, and John R., aged 16.



GEORGE O. ROBINSON.

CHAPTER XXVI.

George Orville Robinson.

George Orville Robinson was b at So. Reading, Vt., June 14, 1832. He is the son of the late Lewis Robinson, and grandson of Ebenezer Robinson. who served our country most faithfully during the War of the Revolution.

Lewis Robinson was a man of great force of character, and of unusual executive ability. His wife also was possessed of remarkable energy of character, and greatly aided her husband in promoting the prosperity of the town. No doubt there was some family pride in this matter, because at the close of the Revolutionary war, the grandfather, Ebenezer Robinson, settled at South Reading, and from the wilderness, had cleared a large and valuable farm, upon which he dwelt for sixty-six years.

During his boyhood, George heard a great many stories of revolutionary life, of the early redemption of the wilderness in this part of Vermont, and of the growth and increasing wealth of the mountainous state from which have gone, to all parts of the world, men of sterling faith and character. Young George enjoyed the usual advantages of the public schools of his native state, and also had the advantage of aiding his father in the publishing of maps of Canada, and of different states of our Union, thus giving to his young mind, a broad outlook which could not otherwise have come to him. At the early age of seventeen he commenced teaching school, meantime studying to fit himself for college.

After completing a preparatory course at Springfield and Newbury Seminaries in 1853, he entered the

University of Vermont, from which, in 1857, he graduated as salutatorian of his class. He immediately began the study of law, and in March of the following year, went to Janesville, Wisconsin, where he completed his professional studies, and in the fall of 1858, was admitted to the bar. During the two following years, while practicing law in Wisconsin, he gave some time to surveying, and also performed the duties of Justice of the Peace.

In the spring of 1861, he removed to Detroit, Michigan, and with David W. Brooks, formed a law partnership in 1862, for the practice of his profession. For a time, the firm gave special attention to the collecting of claims upon the government, arising from the civil war. In 1872, this partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Robinson then became the senior partner of the new firm, Robinson & Flinn. This latter firm still continues. This firm for many years gave special attention to the litigation title, care, and sale of pine lands, and pine land estates. For the last few years Mr. Robinson has also been much interested in the iron mines of Minnesota. Mr. Robinson has always been regarded as a man of strict integrity, conscientious in the discharge of his duties as a citizen, and energetic and persevering in all that pertains to righteousness. In conducting large and important business interests, his judgment and wisdom have always received the approval of his clients.

Mr. Robinson has always been active in charitable and religious work. He was one of the original members of the Young Men's Christian Association of his city, and has three times represented this organization as delegate to International Conventions. As a Methodist, he saw the need of a church paper, and was one of the principal founders of the Michigan Christian Advocate, a religious newspaper which has had large circulation, and is published by the Methodist Publishing Company, of Detroit.

He has always been a large stockholder and officer in this company, and for many years has been its President. In 1895, Mr. Robinson was elected as lay delegate to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, held in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1896. Here he was made a member of the important Book Committee of the church which has charge of the large publishing houses of the Methodist Book Concern, including many publications and periodicals of the church.

In the year 1901, he attended as a delegate, the Ecumenical Methodist Conference, held in London.

As a staunch republican he has ever given his party substantial support, but has never been willing to accept political preferment. Mr. Robinson has traveled extensively in his own country and in foreign lands, and has written much for the press.

In 1859 Mr. Robinson married Miss Helen Mather, a lady of rare taste and fine musical education, who died in 1890 and was the mother of five children,—Frederick A., Caroline M., (now Mrs. George L. Cheeseborough), George A., and Emma Mabel. Their son, Willie H., died at the age of 4, in 1878. Later Mr. Robinson married Miss Jane M. Bancroft, who for more than eight years had been Dean of the Woman's College of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill. She was a graduate of the celebrated school of Mrs. Emma Willard, and later in 1877, of Syracuse University. She also spent two years in Europe in the Universities of Zurich and Paris, where she became greatly interested in Christian philanthropy. On her return she wrote a work entitled, "Deaconesses in Europe and their Lessons for America," which has become an authority on the subject of which it treats.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Ebenezer Robinson, 2nd, and His Three Sons.

Ebenezer Robinson, 2nd,
By Stillman W. Robinson.

Ebenezer Robinson, 2d, farmer and carpenter, was b in Reading, Vt., in 1810, on the farm he was carrying on at the time of his death of typhoid fever, on the morning of July 5, 1848. This was the same farm that his father, Ebenezer Robinson, sought out from the forests of Reading, and settled upon after the war of the Revolution. There was some agreement between this father and son, that the latter should carry on the farm "at the halves", during the life of the former, when the farm should become the property of the son. But the death of the son nine years prior to that of the father, prevented this from being carried out, leaving the widow, Mrs. Adeline W. Robinson, with the responsibility of this farm interest, besides that of the four children of ten years, and younger.

Mr. Ebenezer Robinson, 2nd, was a rather thick-set man, of some 180 lbs. weight, and one who was mentioned by neighbors and others, as of unusual physical strength.

He was enthusiastic with his farm, to get it improved to where less effort would be required in due time, for carrying it on. Some two or three years before his death, he desired some additional buildings, and for economy's sake, he got out the timber, built the framework, and completed them himself, having but a few poor tools to work with.

This carpenter work attracted the attention of neighbors about, who began to apply to him for construction of buildings on their farms. With this encouragement,

he decided to get a set of framer's and carpenter's tools, and in 1847, he became possessed of the finest chest of these tools, all new and bright, that could be found in that part of the country. These the eldest son, Stillman, then of about 8 years (subject of another sketch) coveted the use of, for play tools, with longing, wishful eyes.

But, alas for the youngster! They were in a splendid new iron-bound chest, and under lock and key. That unmistakable, mechanical genius was thus put off, to linger with the few old tools. These, however, had some vim, as proved by the fact, that the youngest boy, A. A., then some 3 years, wielding one of them as best he might, suffered the severance of a small piece from one thumb. This loss however, seems never to have phased A. A. Robinson's brilliant life record. (See another sketch.)

Thus, Ebenezer Robinson, 2nd, so well equipped with the carpenter's outfit, engaged with delight in answering calls for framing and building. In those days, farm buildings were supposed to require a heavy framework, the main pieces not smaller than eight inches square. These must be mortised, tenoned and pins driven through. Some framers went by the so-called "scribe rule", where each mortise was score-marked for its tenon, with a peculiar hand-tool that would cut either a straight or a circular groove, the combination of which would produce any number. But Mr. Robinson disdained this fussy and slow proceeding, and went by the "head rule" where each stick of timber was immediately recognized for its place when the day for "the raising" came. It may be possible that this, together with his home farming, overworked the man, hastening his premature death.

In about 1846, a set of ox-cart wheels were wanted, and instead of buying, he decided to build them himself. The oak trees for the timber for these wheels was selected a year or two ahead, when the best to be found on the

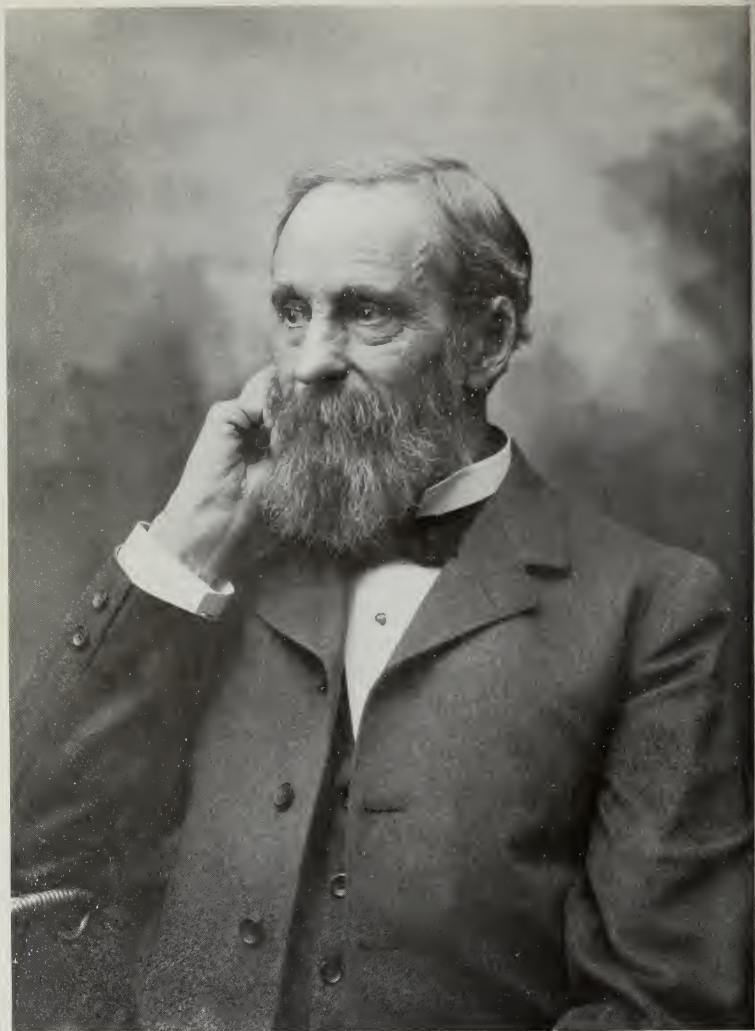
farm were spotted for it, though red, in the absence of white, had to be accepted. A long and serious time of seasoning around the stove and fireplace was passed one winter, and in the early spring the wheels were made by his own hand. These, however, were a most excellent pair of wheels, coveted by the neighbors around, excelling in workmanship as well as in all other qualities.

Thus it is shown that Ebenezer Robinson, 2nd, was a man of unusual aptitudes, exceeding in mechanical handcraft, as well as in his farming; for the farm was always in good, clean and thriving condition, with "pump-logs" laid to bring water from a spring to the house and barns, buildings erected, and in good repair.

He was a good mathematician as far as that went in district schools of those days, not beyond arithmetic. He was captivated by what he could do with arithmetic in squares and square roots, thus determining exactly by mathematics, the length of a brace, whatever its angle. In his younger days he taught school, and was always master of the situation, both for teaching and ruling.

He was an admirer of extended frame-work, such as that in wooden railroad bridges; and also of machinery of all kinds, whether for excavation or rifle making. It will doubtless be conceded by the people of Reading, that this man was born fifty years too soon, for had he the college training and the industrial openings of later times, he would most assuredly have enthused into them, and probably become one of the remarkable engineers of recent years or of today; but his mantle of possible attainments fell for want of calling, and it was left to his sons to recover and bear it forward to mark achievements of today.

The children of Ebenezer Robinson, 2nd, and his wife Adeline W., were four in number, viz:—Stillman W., b March 6, 1838; Elna A., b Dec., 1839; Albert A., b Oct., 1844; Mary Ella, b spring of 1848.



STILLMAN W. ROBINSON, C. E., D. Sc.

Stillman Williams Robinson, C. E., D. Sc., Professor Emeritus in Mechanical Engineering, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, Author, Inventor, Engineering Expert, and College Professor.
Twenty-Five Years.

Mr. Robinson was born near the village of South Reading, Vt., March 6, 1838, on a farm, his father being Ebenezer Robinson, Jr., born in the same place, who carried on a farm; though by preference a carpenter, with frequent calls in that line. The grandfather was Ebenezer Robinson, a soldier in the Revolution, and one of the pioneers of Reading, forming the subject of another sketch.

Prof. Robinson, the subject of this sketch, is emphatically one of Reading's self-made men. At eight years of age he was taken from school for part of the time, that he might more fully serve as a farm hand. At ten years, his father died, and he was placed in charge of another farmer, until 16, which year he was put partly on the farm and partly in running a saw-mill and erecting a lumber and grist-mill. This work was more to the young man's taste, which taste was strongly made known as early as two and a half years of age, when he watched with surprise and spell-bound interest, the operation of the spinning wheel, as it was put in motion to spin the annual "frocking", from which to cut the farm garments. Not only this wheel, but the reel, scarns, loom, etc., for producing this web, riveted the attention of the child.

As days and years went past, this youngster was found making little water wheels which were established in the water guzzles, with string belts to run the little mill, the "bug-grinder", etc. The water drops thrown from the little wheel, were called mosquitoes by the father, who would come along and issue the very unwelcome order, "come, put away your mosquito wheels now, and go out to picking up stone". These stones were always found lying plentifully on a recently

seeded down field in this part of Reading, requiring to be gathered into heaps and drawn away. A few minutes to tinker at mechanical play in the "shop room" was frequently obtained by running ahead of the men at dinner horn blast. Rainy days, when "shop tinkering" could go on, were hailed with delight. At fifteen, a violin was brought out of the "shop room", which was prized above most others for energy and quality of tone. All this mechanical work was so delighted in, that he never tired, while the farm work had no charms whatever.

In those days the village of South Reading had several saw mills, a gristmill, starch mill, a cabinet and bedstead mill, and a blacksmith shop; all of which were familiarized by this subject of our sketch, but the tannery and potash factory had less charms by reason of the lesser machinery.

Imagine the wonderment of the boy as he was taken to Windsor a few times in 1847, and shown about. The Gun Factory, with its wonderful machines held him overawed in admiring gaze. The most noticable by him was the rifling machine which had a leather belt running over one round pully mated with an elliptical one. This seemed impossible, but never forgotten, and was better understood later, when principles of mechanism came to pervade the mind. The Connecticut River Railroad was then just being built, and the locomotive pulling the passenger train, was the especial wonder of the boy's life, as well as the steam excavator, while cutting the sand banks of Hartland to railroad grade. The brick depot at Windsor, where the conductor called out "all aboard for Wells River", to start his train, was ever remembered, and when next seen, last fall, 54 years later, was found less dignified than memory had carried it. Thus it is seen that all mechanical things had an unmistakable charm for the young lad. Who, with these facts in view, could suppose that he had not a

calling, or that he could miss it in his future life?

At the age of 17 years, an apprenticeship of four years was entered upon, at the machinist's trade at Springfield, Vt., which was profitably and pleasantly passed; though when completed, a lack of education was seriously felt. Without stopping to work at his trade, he left Vermont in the spring of 1860, with stencil tools for cutting name plates by the way, and with eight dollars in his pocket, his total capital, to make his way westward, cutting stencils by the way, to take studies at the University of Michigan, at which he arrived with \$50.00 in his pocket. 'On arrival at the University, he was fearful of trying entrance examinations with the rest, so remained out one term, to attend high school, thence entering the University at the winter term. His time was still further cut by nearly a third of a year, by measles and rheumatism, and hence this four years' course for the degree, C. E., was reduced for Mr. Robinson, to somewhat less than two and a half years. This required extraordinary effort, and is said to be the shortest time this course has been passed.

In college his apprenticeship was of material aid, helping him to do jobs to pay his expenses. Thus in part he made stethoscopes for medical students, and graduated thermometer scales for a barometer maker. In the latter however, a machine was invented which proved a great surprise to all thermometer makers. An important invention had been brought out for which more machines were soon demanded, thus noting a valuable invention.

A mechanical engineering school was sought, though not then found in the country. The next nearest was civil engineering, which was finished at the University of Michigan, where he graduated with the degree of C. E., in 1863. To his surprise he found himself equipped for places other than those in the machine shop; as, before he was aware of it or had given thought

to it, he found a position offered him on the United States Lake Survey, paying better than the machine shop. This was accepted for the time, in lieu of some imaginary machine shop place, looked for, but not forthcoming. But the use of instruments, supported by college training, was found a most admirable substitute for what the shops could afford, the instrument proving a fine sort of a machine. Here inventions were made, some as improvements, and one a double eyepiece for the telescope, enabling two persons to observe the same star simultaneously, while it passed the field of the telescope. Its use was for quickly determining the so-called "personal equation", an important item in determining difference of longitude astronomically.

He left the Lake Survey in 1866, to become instructor in engineering in the University of Michigan, where, in 1867 he was promoted to assist Professor of Mine Engineering and Geodesy. In 1870 he resigned this to accept the professorship of Mechanical Engineering and Physics in the University of Illinois. In this comparatively new institution at that time, he built up the department of mechanical engineering and of physics, both including systematic laboratory work.

Of engineering in this institution it was written and read by Prof. I. O. Baker of the same University, on occasion of dedication of the engineering college building :

"The work of the engineering college may be said to date from Jan. 1, 1870, when Stillman W. Robinson was elected Professor of Mechanical Engineering.** Reference is frequently made to a shop, established almost as soon as instruction was started.** It consisted of a few carpenter's tools, in a small room cut off from a mule stable.** Jan. 10, Prof. Robinson addressed a communication to the Board of Trustees, in which he forcibly presented the reasons for uniting theoretical and practical instruction, outlined his method of accomplishing this, and asked for an appropriation of \$2,000, for the purchase

of certain tools and apparatus. This appropriation was promptly granted, and a second story added to the 24x36 building for the carpenter's tools. A steam boiler, an engine lathe, a few tools and the partly finished castings for a steam engine were purchased, and the Professor, with the help of his students, proceeded to make a steam engine which had some novel features to adapt it to experimental purposes. In less than six months the shop was supplied with a fair equipment, nearly all of which was the product of the shop itself.

Thus was opened the first distinctly educational shops in America. Seven years elapsed before another similar shop was open in the United States, while now such instruction is offered at nearly all the state institutions, and public schools in many cities. The credit for the general conception doubtless belongs to the then President, Dr. Gregory,**but Professor Robinson should certainly have the credit for the details of the plan, and the clear perception of the principles to be observed.

In 1871, a legislative grant of \$25,000 for a new mechanical and military building, and for additional machinery, furnished the strongest evidence of the approval of the method of instruction employed.**The work in the recitation and drawing rooms was equally as high in character as the shop work.**

This institution was the third in the United States to give instruction in Physics by the laboratory methods, for the inauguration of which Professor Robinson should have the credit."

Of the faculty of this University, it was said by its President, A. S. Draper, that the time will never come when among faculty names that of Robinson. mentioned with others, will not lead all the rest.

Professor Robinson had become Dean of the College of Engineering in 1878, in which year he resigned to accept the chair of mechanical engineering and physics, in the Ohio State University, at Columbus, O. After

three years, the mechanical subjects had advanced to require his whole attention when he was relieved of physics. Here the higher technical subjects of the classroom, together with the laboratory work, became so severe that he was compelled to resign in 1895.

The professor's training in the various engineering subjects had made him a valuable man in practical operations outside of the university in which he often accepted service. From 1880 to 1884, he was inspector of railroads for Ohio, he examining one-third of all of those roads, and reporting all defects to the State Commissioner. In 1883 and 1884 he served in consultation with the manager of the Santa Fe Railroad, on train brakes and railroad laboratories, while other subjects were investigated and written up, including vibration of bridges, permissible working stresses, strength of columns, car couplers, curves and sidings, railroad economics, besides various other articles published in societies, magazines, etc., and noticed here and in foreign countries. He is author of three of Van Nostrand's Science Series, and rewrote and enlarged another. He is also author of Principles of Mechanism, a College text-book, published in 1896, and admitted to be the chief authority on that subject, and which won him the degree of D. Sc.

He has served as consulting engineer in several important cases, including bridges of the Santa Fe Railroad, from 1887 to 1890. One bridge was a cantilever of longest span, up to that date, in this country (this work winning for him the Roland Prize of the Am. Soc. C. E.) He was consulting engineer for the iron frame work and mountings of the great Lick Telescope, a veritable and exacting piece of engineering work. He was consulting mechanical engineer for the McKay Shoe Machinery Co., of Boston, from 1897 till it combined with the United Shoe Machinery Co. Also he was mechanical engineer and inventor for the Wire Grip Fastening Co., from 1884 till 1897, and invented all the shoe manufacturing ma-

chinery operated by that company.

The professor has been principal in some fifty inventions in various lines, forty of which have been patented in the U. S., and many in foreign countries, among which, the most successful were the thermometer graduating machine, the photograph trimmer, the templet odontograph, the improved Pitot tube instrument, the transmission dynamometer, an angle shaft coupler, an hypodermic syringe, and those for boot and shoe manufacturing. Some of these inventions received awards and medals at our National Expositions.

Professor Robinson is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers; American Society of Civil Engineers; American Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers; Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education and other organizations, and Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

He was first m in 1863 to M. E., daughter of Abel Holden, who d in 1885, by whom he had one son and two daughters. In 1888 he was again m to M. Haines, of Ada, Ohio.

Thus it is seen by following through the above narrative, that Stillman W. Robinson, b in the humble town of Reading, Vt., stands as one example of a self-made man who rose from an insignificant boyhood, to distinction as a teacher; as an author; as an inventor; and as a master of engineering and mechanical science. It has been written of him in Ohio, where his late years have made him known, he is "A man honored, respected and esteemed wherever known, and most of all where best known. He stands today among the leading representatives of the department of teaching, having to do with the great scientific principles underlying mechanical engineering, and his advanced thought and investigations have led to many inventions which have made the world of labor richer, and its activity more effi-

cient." It is one of the glories of our American Nation that a man may thus rise by his own efforts, to distinction and influence among the professions, thus serving as an encouragement to the youth of the country.

Elna Alphonso Robinson, M. E.

Elna Alphonso Robinson, son of Ebenezer Robinson, Jr., and Adaline W. Robinson, was born on the old Robinson Farm, half a mile south of South Reading village, Dec. 15, 1839. At the age of eight years, his father died, and he was sent out to live with his grandfather some two years, at Hartland, Vermont, and afterwards with another relative in the northern part of the state, about two years, and after this, with a farmer in Springfield, Vt., till he reached the age of seventeen years, when he went to learn the machinist's trade with F. B. Gilman, at Springfield, Vt. After serving his apprenticeship with Mr. Gilman, he was sent to Miss Melora Smith, at Gardner, Mass. He then spent a year or so, cutting stencil plates for soldiers, after which he and his young wife went west, locating at Janesville, Wis., where he entered the employ of a machine shop, and worked at his trade for several years. For three years of the time he resided at Janesville, he was foreman of the machine shop of the Doty Manufacturing Company.

Realizing that he needed a better education than the common schools afforded in Vermont, Mr. Robinson, in 1870, removed to Champaign, Ill., and entered the University of Illinois, taking the full course of Mechanical Engineering, which took four years' time, when he graduated with the degree M. E. While a student in the University, Mr. Robinson, being a practical machinist and accustomed to the handling of work and men, was given the charge of the University Mechanical Laboratory and Machine Shop, spending a portion of his time as assistant in the laboratory, and in capacity of foreman

in the shop ; and in this way he was able to earn a fair amount ; and by the help of his wife, who took boarders, he was able to carry on his studies, and pay his living expenses through to graduation in June, 1875.

After graduation, Mr. Robinson continued in the employ of the University for three years, and still had charge of the shops, and also taught several classes in the University.

In June, 1878, Mr. Robinson formed a partnership with Mr. E. M. Burr, M. E., also a graduate who learned his machinist's trade under Mr. Robinson while a student at the University. They then embarked in the machine and foundry business under the firm name of Robinson & Burr, which partnership continued for twenty-one years, building up a very successful business in the city of Champaign, Ill.

Their work was general machinery, for the most part, though a few patented machines, including a somewhat remarkable thermometer graduating machine, were specialties. This latter machine, awarded a medal at the Centennial of 1876, was greatly improved by them.

During the partnership, there appeared quite a need of plumbing in the town, and as there was no one regularly engaged in it there, they took this up, and it developed into quite a large portion of their business.

In February, 1899, by mutual consent, the firm of Robinson & Burr was dissolved, Mr. Robinson taking the plumbing and heating by himself ; since which time he has conducted this business alone, at which he has ranked as foremost.

Quite early in life, Mr. Robinson manifested unmistakable evidences of strong mechanical traits, preferring mechanical toys in boyhood, and leaving the farm for machine apprenticeship, on becoming a young man ; thus gaining skill in a line which held him through succeeding years to the present.

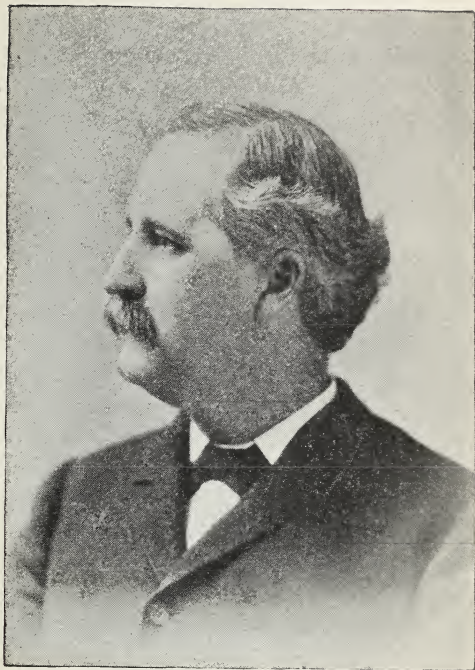
Through life, Mr. Robinson was thoroughly upright in all his dealings, always surrounded with plenty of friends, and never a foe. He early became a church member. He buried his first wife in 1885, and remarried in 1887. He raised three daughters by his first wife. Since 1871 he has resided at Champaign, Ill.

Albert Alonzo Robinson, C. E., M. S., LL.D.

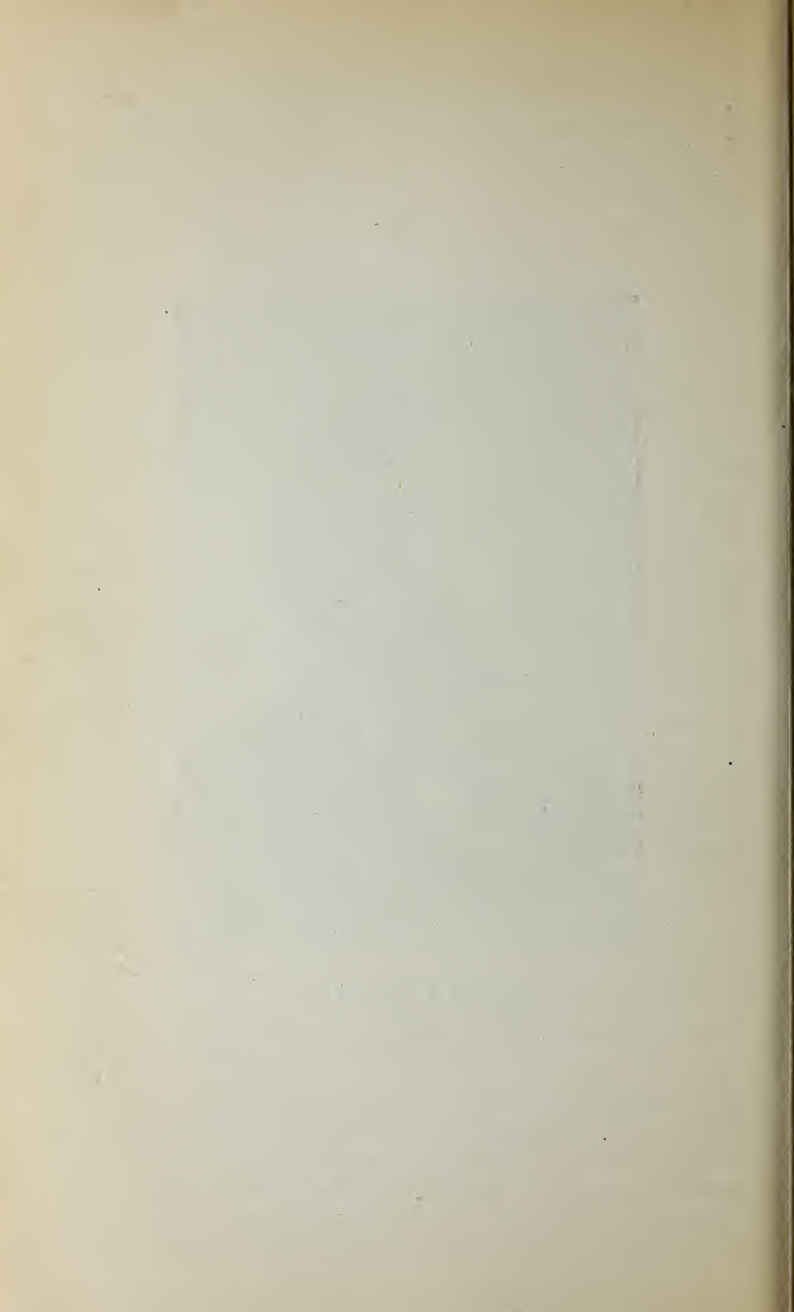
Albert Alonzo Robinson, of Boston, president of the Mexican Central Railway, is a native of Vermont, b on the Ebenezer Robinson farm about half a mile south of the village of South Reading, Windsor County, Vermont, Oct. 21, 1844; son of Ebenezer, Jr., and Adaline (Williams) Robinson. He is a lineal descendant of Jonathan Robinson, b in Cambridge, Mass., in 1682, a son of William Robinson, one of the early settlers there. His grandfather, Ebenezer Robinson, Sr., was b in Lexington, Feb. 1765, and d Oct. 31, 1857, at the ripe age of ninety-two. He served in the Revolutionary War for two years, part of the time in the navy as privateer, and part as a soldier in the land forces; and for about six months was a prisoner on the prison ship "Old Jersey". His father Ebenezer, Jr., was also a native of South Reading, Vt., b Sept. 30, 1809, d July 5, 1848.

Albert A., was educated in the public schools, in Milton (Wis.) Academy and in the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich., where he graduated in 1869, taking the degree of C. E., and B. S., and in 1871 the post graduate degree, M. S.; and subsequently in 1900, the honorary degree of LL.D.

From childhood until he reached his majority, he was engaged at farm labor out of school hours, excepting during the years 1856—'59, when he worked as a clerk in dry goods or grocery stores. From 1865 to 1869, he took his college course at the University of Michigan. During 1866 and 1868, he was employed for about



ALBERT A. ROBINSON.



five months each year, as assistant on the United States Lake Surveys in astronomical field work, and on triangulation of the Great Lakes.

His work on railroads began in 1869, when on May 27, he entered the services of the St. Joseph & Denver City Railroad as axeman in the engineering corps, and thereafter served successively as chainman, levelman, transitman, office engineer, locating engineer, and assistant engineer until the first of April, 1871. Then he became assistant engineer of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, in charge of location and construction, and two years later, on the first of April, 1873, was made chief engineer, which position he held till August, 1890. From June 1, 1883, to Sept. 1, 1883, he also served as assistant general superintendent of the Santa Fe system; from Sept. 1, 1883, to March 1, 1884, he was general superintendent; from March 1, 1884, to Feb. 1, 1886, he was general manager; from Feb. 1, 1886, to May, 1888, second vice-president; and second vice-president and general manager from May, 1888, till April 3, 1893, when he left this system to accept the presidency of the Mexican Central Railroad Company, (Limited.)

During his engineering experience he has had direct charge of the construction of over forty-five hundred miles of railroad, including the building of the Pueblo & Denver line, one hundred and sixteen miles in seven months; and the extending of the company's line from Kansas City to Chicago, four hundred and fifty-eight miles, from April, to Dec. 31, of the same year.

As president of the Mexican Central, he is in charge of the general business and affairs of the road, with headquarters in Boston, and with offices also in the City of Mexico and in London.

Mr. Robinson is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. In politics he is Republican. He was m Dec. 9, 1869, to Miss Julia Caroline Burdick, of Edgerton, Wis. She d Aug. 3, 1881, leaving a daughter,

Melta Burdick Robinson, b July 17, 1876.

He m, second, Sept. 3, 1885, Mrs. Ellen Francis Williams, a sister of his first wife. It was when Mr. Robinson was less than four years old, that his father died, leaving him to the care of his widowed mother, who, after some two years, and until she was remarried in 1856, placed him out to earn his living. Most of this time he was with his uncle, Lewis Robinson, a manufacturer, publisher, stove dealer, farmer, etc., by whom, and among which occupations, the child was given employment.

When some six years old he was sent to Windsor, Vt., a distance of twelve miles, with a horse, and a load of washboards for delivery. Notwithstanding his youth, the load was delivered correctly, but his judgment for the old horse was less correct, for next morning it was found dead in the pasture, from colic, induced probably by the long drive, extending into the night. However the commercial part of the transaction appears to have been executed as satisfactorily, as some of his railroad dealings of later years.

In one instance, at about the same age he was sent with a horse and buggy, a distance of sixteen miles, to bring home a son of his uncle. On arriving at the school to find the object of his coming, and while seated in his buggy, he asked of some students passing "where is Calvin? These went up into the schoolroom and reported to Calvin L. Robinson that "there is one of the nicest little boys you ever saw out here in a buggy inquiring for Calvin."

Thus the sixteen mile trip was correctly accomplished. The youth was often sent on trips with success remarkable, for one so young, producing a most favorable impression upon all he met, for manlike and gentlemanly behavior.

In 1856 he was taken to Wisconsin with his parents, where, until he started for college in 1865, he was occu-

pied in school, clerking in stores, and as aid in carrying on a farm. In all this he sustained an excellent reputation for a boy.

At the age of seventeen he commenced his four years' college course, taking, as was not common, two degrees in the time for one.

Before graduating, he was engaged for employment at railroad construction. In his field practice of railroad track building, he commenced at the very bottom, including the driving of "slope stakes."

This was his first experience on the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, the road which he built most of prior to the year 1890, while he rose from the the lowest to the highest position in railroad building.

During this twenty years, however, he with several aids, were kept close at this work, while that road advanced across the plains to Canon City, Denver and Chicago; and also through mountains as well, to Santa Fe and El Paso; which, including branches, approach 5,000 miles, aggregating one of the greatest portions of railroad buildings ever accomplished by one man. He also accomplished part of the work on the line through the Grand Canon of the Arkansas to Leadville. In connection with this, and including his presidency, some notable railroad problems were worked out, including Grade Compensation for Curvature; the practicability of Switchbacks; a railroad owning its own complete Testing Laboratory; expense to allow in reducing the prevailing Maximum Grade of a Division, and other Grades proper to admit in the same division by way of reducing cost; the Maximum Grade to adopt for a division for East Bound versus West Bound; the making of Preliminary Surveys without Instruments; the admission of special short divisions embracing extraordinary grades, with provision for its own extra locomotive power exclusive to itself; the best locomotive for a combination of steep grades, sharp curves, and heavy traffic; the best

organization of the forces of a railway system for the most Efficient Operating and Maintenance of Way for the same ; the most suitable Location of the Construction and Repair Works of a railway company ; what portion of the Total Equipment of a Railway should be manufactured in its own works ; to what extent should the Entire Work be separated into individual shops, and how far should these shops be separated ; the best arrangement of the individual shops of the works to secure the greatest efficiency of shop production and repairs ; the most Suitable Power to adopt in a railway works, steam, electric or others, etc., etc.

Indeed the entire experience of Mr. Robinson, in connection with railroads, from the first to the present, for a period of some thirty years, has been one of continuous, close and hard work, connected with constant study upon problems as how to secure from the entire system the most satisfactory returns with greatest economy.

How well this great work has been accomplished in the matter of railroad affairs is answered by the high esteem in which Mr. Robinson has been constantly held as he has advanced from the very lowest position in engineering, up through the series, including preliminary and final location, constructing engineer, chief engineer, superintendent, general manager, to president ; all in connection with great railroad systems.

The appointment of Mr. Robinson in 1893, as president of the notable Mexican Central Railroad marked a turning point for its higher and unquestioned success, as evinced by its extension of numerous branch lines, large additions to the rolling stock, and the establishment of magnificent modern construction and repair works of its own at Agnos Calientes.

Thus it appears that the world of progress has found in the person of A. A. Robinson more than an ordinary man upon whom to place heavy responsibilities ; and the

resplendent manner in which he has held his shoulder to the chariot wheel of the country's onward and upward movement speaks in no uncertain terms for the credit and honor of his own native town of Reading ; the State of Vermont ; for New England ; and for the country at large. Thus the farmer boy from the eastern slope of the Green Mountains, left at four without a father, must have been born as possessed of unusual natural traits such as puts new life into whatever surrounding circumstances, both to command and to do ; and the humble town of Reading, Vt., may justly claim a credit for itself, and voice it in published memoirs.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Biographical Sketches, Continued.

James P. Osborne, M. D.; Wm. Munroe Pember; Abel Ray, Jr.; Rev. Joseph S. Small; Albert N. Swain.

James P. Osborne

whose portrait hangs in the Library Building was for many years a resident physician and surgeon, at Felchville. He was b at Piermont, N. H., in 1843, fitted at Newbury, (Vt.) Seminary, and graduated at Dartmouth Medical College. He was a successful and popular physican, both at Reading and Tilton, N. H., and at the latter place was extensively engaged as a manufacturer, and accumulated a large property. He left surviving him a wife and daughter, the latter now dead.

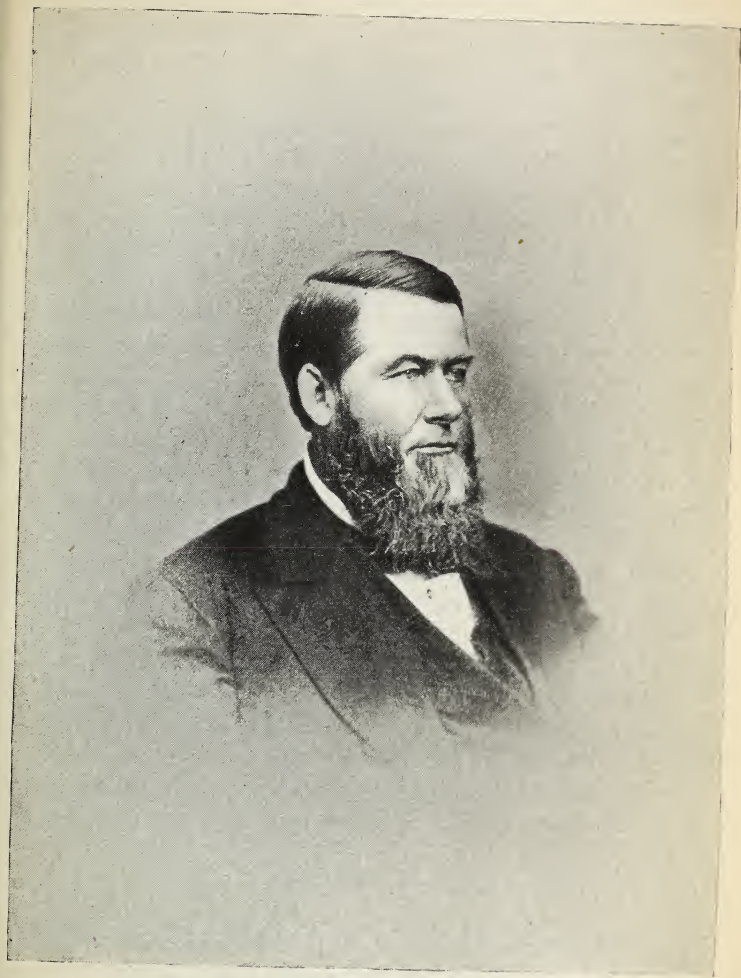
William Munroe Pember

was b in Reading, Nov. 2, 1860. He became a farmer and teacher and located in Rochester, Vt., in 1890. Was educated at the common schools and at Randolph Normal School. Since his residence in Rochester he has held the office of school director and Supt. of schools, and town representative 1902—4, and is a republican.

Rev. Joseph S. Small,

By Wm. H. Gardner, of Chicago.

Born in Gilford, N. H., August 16, 1826. Resided in Gilford until he was twenty-eight years of age. Taught the district schools in or in the neighborhood of Alton, Meredith, Gilford and Gilmanton, N. H. From 1854 to 1856, studied and graduated at Fairfax Theological Institution, at Fairfax, Vt. From 1856 to 1859, he



DR. JAMES P. OSBORNE.

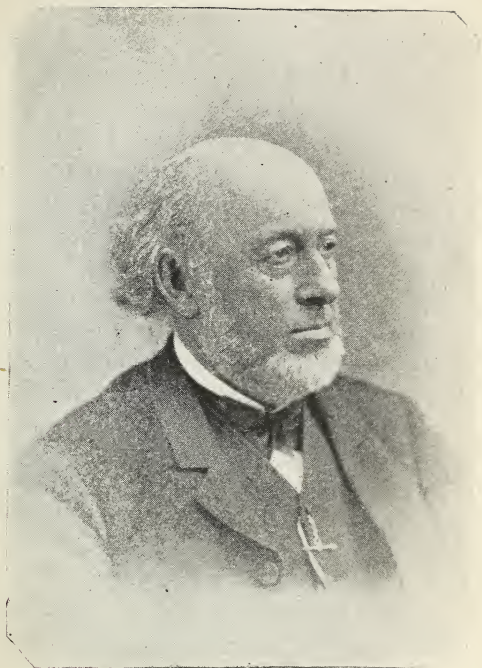
and Nancy (Oaks) Gould, of Andover, Vt., of whom eight children were b, five of whom d in infancy. The living are:—Eugene J., residing in Winchester, Mass.; Eliza J. Jackson, residing in Ludlow, Vt.; Leonard A., at So. Reading, Vt. Worked in different places until 1869, then worked at the tanner's trade in Weston two years, for White & Heron; moved to Cuttingsville, in 1871, and worked in the tannery of James Huntoon, nine years. Moved to Ludlow in 1882, and worked at farming. Moved to So. Reading, Vt., in March, 1892, on to the Marvin Robinson place, and has carried on the farm and done butchering for the citizens.

Albert N. Swain.

Albert Nathaniel Swain, of Bellows Falls, Vt., son of Nathaniel and Lucia (Stow) Swain, was b in Reading, July 12, 1828.

He received his literary instruction in the common schools, but his practical education was derived from the printing office. In this latter he served an apprenticeship of three years, commencing in 1847, in the office of the Vermont Journal, at Windsor, during which he gave some attention to the study of Latin. After this, he continued for a similar period as journeyman with the same employer, when seized with an ambition to become a journalist, he removed to Brattleboro, and there found a position as printer and assistant editor of the Vermont Republican, then published by O. H. Platt. In 1856, he came to Bellows Falls, where he became editor, and soon after, proprietor of the Bellows Falls Times, which he continued to publish in connection with conducting a job printing establishment, for more than thirty-two years, when he retired from active life, still making that town his place of residence.

Mr. Swain was m, Nov. 13, 1856, to Susan W., daughter of John L. and Phebe (Town) Putnam, of



A. N. SWAIN.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Paul Stearns and His Family.

(1) Paul Stearns, b 1774, a son of Daniel and Hannah (Wetherbee) Stearns, of Leominster, Mass., d Mar. 22, 1844, a farmer of Reading, Vt. Married (1) Grace Washburn, who d 1799, leaving one (11) son Charles lived to be 15 years of age.

Paul Stearns m (2) 1800, Lucy Kneeland, of Windsor, Vt., b Nov. 8, 1776, in Winchendon, Mass., a daughter of Timothy Kneeland, of Gardner, Mass., (a Revolutionary soldier for four years) and of Moriah (Stone) Kneeland, his wife, who was descended from Capt. John Stone, a celebrated Indian fighter, and on her mother's side from Degory Priest who came over in the Mayflower.

The Kneeland family trace their ancestry back seven centuries to Alexander Kneeland of Scotland, prelate, whose wife was an aunt of Sir Wm. Wallace. Mrs. Stearns d in 1875, in the ninety-ninth year of her age at Reading, Vt. Their children were ;

(11) Timothy Kneeland, b 1802, d in infancy.

(11) Lucy, b 1804, m John Gilson, d 1848. Children,

(111) Abel, Thomas, Wilbur, Charles, Edson, Ellen, Cleora, Lucy Ann, Emily and three infants. The first seven are still living, Abel in Indiana, Charles in Plymouth, Vt., and the others in Rutland, Vt.

(11) Grace, b 1806, m Almon Davis, d 1863.

(11) Thomas, b 1808, d 1826.

(11) Hon. John M. Stearns, A. M., LL.B., was b Dec. 13, 1810, m (1) Sept. 3, 1836, Emeline H. Adams, b April 15, 1807, in Royalton, Vt., who d Aug. 30, 1860, in Brooklyn, N. Y.; m (2) Dec. 16, 1861, at Williamsburg, N. Y., Mrs. Sarah J. (Valentine) Vanderburgh; m (3) Aug. 23, 1889, Mrs. Katie Vesper, widow of Capt. Peter Vesper, of Thomaston, Me. He (Mr. Stearns) d Dec. 27,

1898, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. The following interesting sketch of his life was taken from a newspaper published in Poughkeepsie :—

“John M. Stearns was a man of remarkable ability, as well as of sturdy character. He was, through his whole life, a typical New England character, although in 1844 he removed to Old Williamsburg, N. Y., and from that time on was prominently identified with Brooklyn and its development.

“He preached in his youth, and later turned to journalism, editing several newspapers in New England. He became prominent in Brooklyn through his opposition to the consolidation of Williamsburg and Brooklyn. He wrote an article on the ‘History of the Town of Williamsburg’, which is now found in Styles’ History of King’s County. His work in journalism was all done in Vermont between 1832 and 1840. When he went to Brooklyn he studied law and was one of the best-known lawyers in Brooklyn until advancing age removed him from active practice at the bar.

“Mr. Stearns wrote several books, among which may be mentioned, ‘Wreath of Wild Roses’, published in 1846; ‘The Rights of Man the True Basis of Reconstruction’, (1866); ‘The Puritan as a Character in History’, (1876); ‘The Bible in Harmony With Nature’, ‘An Appeal for Lay Preaching’, ‘Tom Paine on Trial’, and ‘The Infidels in Court’, (1880).

“Mr. Stearns has traveled all over the country and was possessed of wide information. He was a handsome man, always pleasant, and his blue eyes were kindly and bright, even in his old age. His mind lost none of its clearness, nor did memory forsake him at any time, so that he was one of the most interesting and lovable of men. A year ago there was published in The Brooklyn Times an article on Mr. Stearns’ life, in which article occurs the following :

“ ‘Mr. Stearns has traveled largely, both through

the states and territories of the union and in the old world. He spent much of his time in travel, but in addition to the varied knowledge so gathered, he believes that his life has been preserved thereby to the sound old age of 88, with a fair prospect for lengthened days. His long and varied experiences of life have mellowed, not soured, his disposition, so that his comments on men and things, although they may be sarcastic, are given with a merry twinkle of the eye that makes them sparkling, but not acid. In these characteristics he resembles Carlyle, without Carlyle's bitterness.' "

(III) Children of first wife,— Helen, who is the widow of Hon. Homer A. Nelson, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and John Milton, Jr., who d, 1900, leaving three children,(iv) Helen, John Milton and Winthrop.

(II) Sarah, b 1812, m Samuel Lamb, of Bridgewater, Vt., d 1867. Had ten children, of whom four are living, Mrs. Philip Royce, of Brownsville, Vt., Mrs. Jennie Webb and Samuel A. Lamb, of Barnard, and Mrs. Lucy Robinson, of Iowa.

(II) Benjamin Franklin Stearns, b in Reading, Dec. 25, 1814, d Nov. 6, 1899. Married (1) Lucy Melvina Washburn, daughter of Lemuel B. Washburn, Oct. 27, 1842, who d in Everett, Mass., June 13, 1880; m (2) Mary E. Davis, June 26, 1881, who d Feb. 8, 1883. in Everett, Mass.; m (3) Mrs. Elizabeth M. Coburn of Reading, July 17, 1884.

Four children were b to the first wife: Oscar Hamlin, Eugene H., Alice M., and Frank H.; the second and third children dying in infancy. Mr. Stearns moved from Reading to Rutland about 1862, and resided in Lunenburg, South Abington, and Everett, Mass., and returned to his native state in 1884, where he lived till his death.

He was a man of kindly nature and strict integrity; in religion, a believer in the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ; never, however, uniting with any church, but

often stating to the writer, he regretted that he had not done so. Quite a share of his life was spent in farming, but he also was a carpenter and for several years engaged in the wheelwright business, and in mercantile pursuits at Felchville, Vt.

Of Benj. F. and Lucy M. Stearns' children, Oscar Hamlin was b in Felchville Aug. 15, 1843. He attended the village schools, prepared for college at Green Mt. Perkins Academy, So. Woodstock, Vt.; graduated with high honors at Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt. He was principal of the Leominster High School, Leominster, Mass., in 1863-1867 and Athol High School, Athol, Mass., in 1867. He studied law in Boston, Mass., and Brooklyn, N.Y. and was admitted to the bar of New York and practiced there for several years. Afterwards he engaged in the fertilizer business at Fall River, Mass., and at Guilford, Conn., with the main offices in New York City for several years. Since discontinuing the fertilizer business he has resumed the practice of the law and has offices and resides in Brooklyn, N. Y.

He m Eliza F. Valentine of Brooklyn, N. Y., June 2, 1888. They have no children.

The other son, Frank Herbert, was b at Felchville, Oct. 31, 1857, and with his parents moved to Rutland about 1862, then to Lunenburg Mass., and after about two years to South Abington, then to Everett, Mass., He graduated from the grammar school in Everett in 1874 and afterwards entered the high school, but remained only a short time, going from there to a private school at Mt. Vernon, N. H., and to Wesleyan academy Wilbraham, Mass., and afterwards studied French at Longueuil, Canada, and other places.

After leaving school he was engaged in the printing business in Boston, and then in the fertilizer business in Fall River, Mass., Guilford, Conn., and New York City. Failing health compelled him to retire from active busi-

ness for a time and his father having concluded to return to his native state, he accompanied him in 1874, going direct to Felchville; part of each year, however, he returned to New York City, for three or four months but finally came to reside in Vermont permanently, establishing a successful business in Chester in 1890, in grist mills and other machinery, where he still is. In 1896 he was m to Carrie Louise Marble, daughter of Eli and Mary Marble of Weston, Vt., and they have three daughters, Lucy M. Ruth M. and Grace W.

(11) Rev. George Washington Stearns, b Dec. 25, 1814 a Christmas twin, at Reading, Vt., a clergyman of the M. E. church, and a homeopathic physician; m (1) May 8, 1838, Sarah Sylvia Crowell, of Yarmouth, Mass.; settled in New Bedford, Mass., m (2) Julia Amanda Ware, who bore him one son. He was the oldest member of the Southern New England Conference, but was obliged to give up preaching on account of the loss of his voice. By his first wife he had seven children, of whom two survive.

(11) Paul Wetherbee Stearns, b Mar. 4, 1817, a manufacturer of woolen cloths and woolen goods at Felchville; m Dec. 5, 1844, Salome Tarbell, b March 24, 1817, d Aug. 18, 1878, at Felchville. He d at Felchville. Their children were--

(111) Elwin Hale, b Feb. 28, 1848 at Felchville; m Sarah Elizabeth Martin, and settled in Manchester, Iowa, where he d July 27, 1884, leaving one son, Alexander Wetherbee Stearns.

The other child was a daughter, (111) Eudora Zulette, b July 28, 1858, at Felchville; m in 1887, Dr. George A. Pettigrew, of Flandreau, So. Dakota. They have one daughter, Addie Stearns Pettigrew.

(11) The youngest child of Paul and Lucy (Kneeland) Stearns was Honestus, b July 22, 1820, and living on the old homestead where he was born, until his death where, surrounded by the fruit orchards, whose plant-

ing, care and harvesting occupied a liberal share of his time for over fifty years. He was practically the pioneer in this section of the grafted fruit industry.

He m (1) Lenora D. Mathews, by whom he had one daughter, Helen Minerva, wife of Dr. George W. Nichols, of Mankato, Minn. They have two children living—Dr. G. Clarence and Ethel. He m (2) Mariette M. Gill, who d Sept. 11, 1873. They had four children—

(111) George Gill, b Nov. 1, 1851; m Mattie J. Amos, who d in 1884; George G. d in 1889, leaving one daughter, Lillian Elizabeth, b 1880; of Ironton, O.

(111) Kate Marie, b June 18, 1853; m in 1882, Oscar T. Rice of Weathersfield, who d in 1892. Their children—Ethel Louise, b 1883; Elsie Lucille, b 1884, d 1885; Stella Katherine, b 1886; Karl Fitch, b 1890.

(111) Lucille Mariette, b Jan. 1, 1859; m Oscar S. Randall. Their children are—Clarence Oscar, b 1881, Harold George, b 1882; Edna Lucille, b 1888, d 1890; Earle Stearns, b 1895.

(111) Cora Theodotia, b July 16, 1863; m in 1893, George C. Whitcomb. They live in W. Lebanon, N. H.

Honestus m (3) Mrs. Emeline B. Lovell, who d July 26, 1884.

Daniel Stearns, Jr., was a brother of Paul Stearns, and was b at Leominster, Mass., Feb. 25, 1772, m (1) before 1796, Martha Kemp, who had one daughter, then d; m (2) Dec., 14, 1797, Sarah Pratt, b Aug., 25, 1776, who d Jan. 10, 1828, daughter of David and Hepzibaza Pratt of Fitchburg, Mass. In 1796, he settled in Reading, Vt., where he d Mar. 22, 1831; there were ten children.

Of these Hannah Stearns, b June 6, 1805, m Mar. 27, 1833, Jarvis Pratt of Reading, and settled on her father's homestead; she d Feb. 23, 1886. Of their six children, Martha E. and Hobart S. live on the old place.

Daniel Stearns, 3d., b July 26, 1807, m Nov. 2, 1830, Flavilla Fay, daughter of Ezra and Olive (Lincoln) Fay

Mr. Baldwin was again married to Sarah J. Rice, Jan. 25, 1874, at Hartland, Vt., Rev. Chas. C. Thornton officiating. Miss Rice had been a teacher in the public schools of Hartland, Windsor, Hartford and Woodstock, Vt.. forty terms.

Mr. Baldwin began business in Felchville as a shoemaker and grocer, in 1856, succeeding Verenus Hathorn in a building on the site of the store now occupied by Hook & Burnham; and continued in this business until 1865 when he sold to Willard Gates. Willard Gates and Henry J. Hulett carried on a grocery and livery business at that place until the death of Mr. Gates.

Henry J. Hulett carried on the business until he sold to Fred K. Gates, the son of Willard. Fred K. Gates carried on the business until he died.

Corydon M. Fay became the successor of Mr. Gates at that store,

Charles C. Thornton was a Universalist clergyman and had held pastorates at Waitsfield and Essex, Vt.

The firm opened a branch store at So. Woodstock, in the brick store near the hotel, in 1868, and placed Mr. Thornton in charge of it, and he took up his residence in that place, and supplied the Universalist church there. He then removed to Hartland 3 Corners and carried on the mercantile business at that place and served as pastor of the Universalist church there until his death.

After the death of Mr. Thomas, Baldwin & Thornton carried on general mercantile business in the same store until Ed. H. Carter took the dry goods part and Mr. Baldwin the grocery department for about one year.

Horatio G. Hawkins bought out Mr. Baldwin and carried on the grocery business, and soon after Ed. H. Carter moved his business over to the store north of the hotel.

Townsend Records.

By Arthur H. Keyes.

Thomas Townsend came with three brothers from Devonshire, England, and settled in Lynn in the colony of Massachusetts Bay, in the year 1637.

His mother was Mary Forthe the first wife of Henry Townsend and a daughter of Robert Forthe, LL. D. "Dean of the Arches" and a near cousin of Gov. Winthrop's first wife, Mary Forthe. As Gov. Winthrop was a relative and governor of the colony it is probable that his puritanical relations aided him in selecting a home in New England. In 1638 he was granted sixty acres of land with Lord Brook and others by the town of Lynn. In 1639 he was made a "free-man" and from his serving the public on more than one occasion he seemed to have been an important citizen. From records we learn that he did not agree with the Salem and Lynn Puritans in their extreme measures and was heartily opposed to persecution. He was a liberal and fled from England with colonists on account of their religious beliefs.

His wife was Mary Newgate. They had five children. With this Thomas Townsend the line of descent was transferred from England to America.

John Townsend his second son, was b in Lynn in 1640. Daniel Townsend son of John was b in 1700. Thomas Townsend (2) son of Daniel was b in Lynn in 1736. His wife was Susanna Green. They were m Nov. 1762. To them were b the following children, (3) Thomas, Susanna, Dorcas, Mehitable, Aaron, Sarah, Anna, William and Thomas.

Thomas Townsend served in the war of the Revolution as sergeant on the alarm of April 1775, was commissioned 1st Lieutenant in Capt. John Perkins' company, Col. Pickering's regiment.

In the year 1785 this Thomas Townsend left Lynn with his family and settled in Reading, Vt., taking up government land about two and one half miles from the "Middle town" on Reading Hills and built a log house.

This family was among the early settlers of Reading of whom it is said, "They were men imbued with Puritanical habits and opinions and early turned their attention to the subject of education and religion. They were among those who organized the first church in the town, and built a log meeting house and parsonage. They were strict in their observance of the Sabbath, going two and one half miles to attend church, in winter through deep snow and over high drifts with mercury at ten degrees below zero.

The following children settled in Reading: Aaron, Anna, William and Thomas, Aaron married Lydia Swain and lived on the home farm, building thereon a comfortable frame house and barn. He followed the vocation of a farmer. Was Capt. in the State Militia. Lydia his wife d in 1824. His second was Mary Buck, who d in 1826. His third wife was Betsey Stone. The children of Aaron Townsend and Lydia Swain were Sally, Almond, Louisa, James Swain, Mary Emerson, Aaron, Otis, and Caroline Augusta. Anna Townsend a woman of culture and ability, m William Hawkins who was a prominent man in the early history of the town. To them were b six children:

William Townsend m Susanna Smith, who d in 1820. His second wife was Hannah Bigelow.

Thomas Townsend was a farmer. His farm was not far from the Swain Place, where he spent the last years of his life and reared a large family of children. The Townsends who were noted in Revolutionary times, were Thomas (2) of Lynn, Mass., and his brother Daniel. It is recorded of Daniel that when the alarm was given that the British had marched to Concord, he left his farm and immediately started for the scene of conflict. He was killed in the battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, aged, 37 years. He left a wife and five children. It is said of him, "He was a friend to his country, a blessing to society and an ornament to the

church of which he was a member.

“He loved his Bible, he loved his God, he fell in defence of his country”.

This inscription is on his tombstone at Lynnfield, Mass.:

“Lie valiant Townsend in the peaceful shades ; we
trust

Immortal honors mingle with thy dust,
What though thy body struggled in its gore ?
So did thy Saviour’s long before.
And as he raised his own by power divine,
So the same power shall also quicken thine,
And in eternal glory may’s’t thou shine”.

CHAPTER XXXI.

Daniel Stearns White, Wm. Wilkins, The Oliver Whitmore Family, Dr. Isaac J. Wetherbee.

Daniel Stearns White.

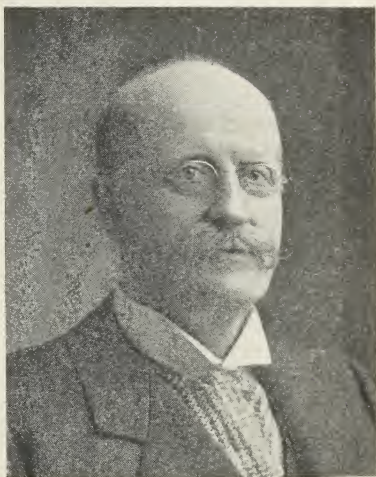
Prepared at the Request of the Editor.

I was b in Felchville, in the town of Reading, Vt., in one of the red houses near the Baptist Church. Roswell Hoadley occupied one half of the house and my father, Calvin White, the other half. I was b on March 24, 1837, and three weeks after Jennie Hoadley was born; an incident that Roswell Hoadley has frequently called my attention to.

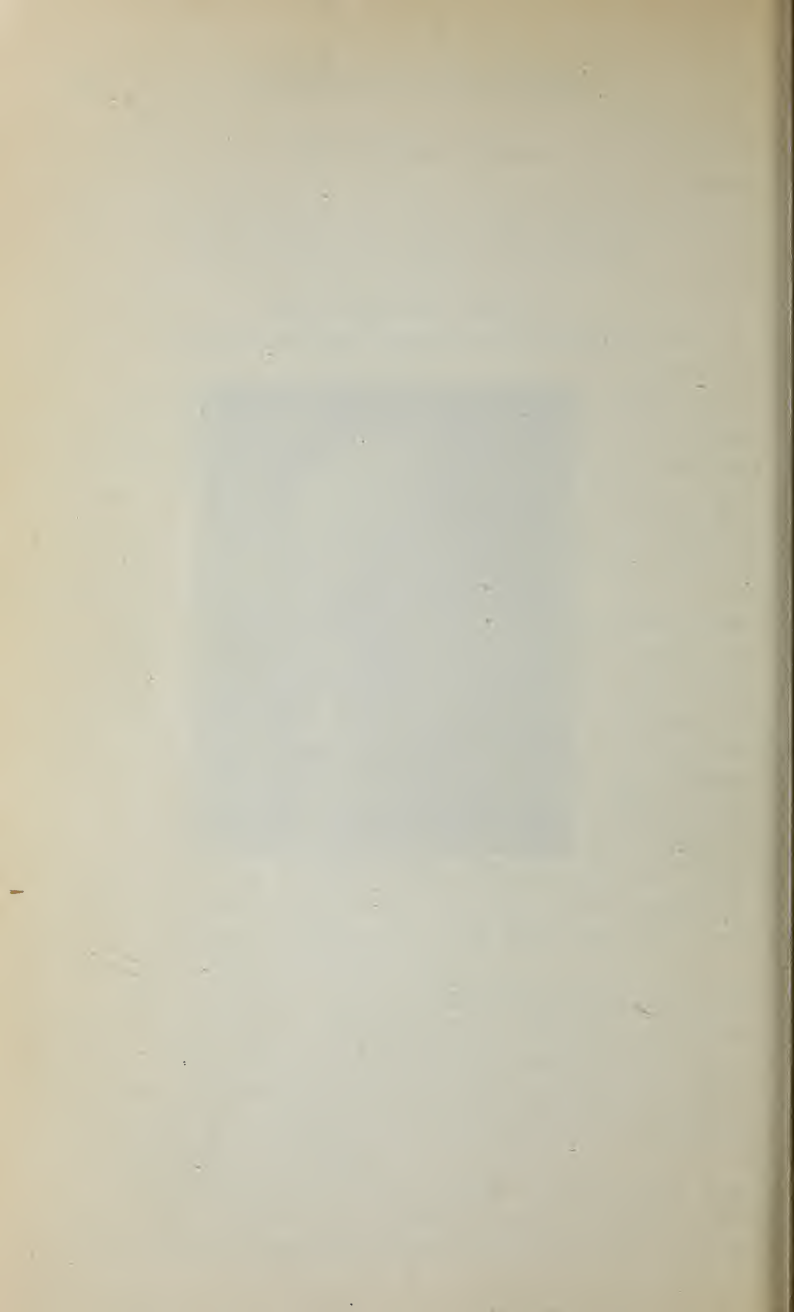
My father was a blacksmith and removed soon after to Greenbush, in the town of Weathersfield, where he worked at his trade for several years until he finally removed to Cavendish where he engaged in farming on what is now known as the "Tarbell" place. In 1857 we removed to Greenbush, Vt., and my father again began working at his trade, but d in 1858. I was then twenty years old and went to Troy, N. Y., to live where I worked one year. I went from there to Carlisle, Pa., and entered the regular army, but was soon transferred to the permanent company and was there till 1860, and was sent to Harper's Ferry, Va.

The next spring I entered the Union army in Co. I, second regiment of Vermont Vol. Infantry for three years. I was made sergeant on the organization of the company, and on Dec. 26, 1862 was made second lieutenant and on January 8 was made captain of company I of the second Vt. Vols.

I participated in the first battle of Bull Run and each of the battles of my regiment in all the time I was in the regiment, making seventeen engagements that I



D. STEARNS WHITE, M. D.



participated in. I was wounded very seriously in the first day in the Wilderness on May 5, 1864, the seventeenth engagement the regiment had participated in.

I was shot through the right leg, just below the knee, and bled nearly to death before the blood could be stopped.

I was removed from the field to Fredericksburg, Va., and soon after to Belle Plaine Landing where I was transferred to boat and from thence to Armory Square hospital in Washington. Here I stayed a few weeks and was sent to my wife in Ludlow, Vt. In the spring of 1864 we had an order that any officer who would "signify his intention to remuster at the end of the time he had mustered in for would be allowed a furlough of 35 days." I took advantage of this offer and signified my intention to remuster at the end of my term, June 20, 1864, for another three years, and was allowed a leave of absence and went to Ludlow, Vt., and was m to Maria E. Howe, the daughter of Gardner I. Howe of that town. My leg was drawn up so badly I was told I must be transferred to the Invalid Corps which I declined, and in November of 1864 I resigned my commission as Capt. of Co "I" second Vt., and engaged in the manufacture of bedsteads and lumber and also had the grist mill, all in Felchville, Vt.

I run this one year and removed to Potsdam, N. Y., to give me greater advantages in manufacture with warerooms in New York at 182 & 184 Chatham Square. In 1868 I removed to Vermont having sold out my interests in the business and bought the Chair factory in Felchville. I sold this and moved to Woodstock where I lived till 1874, when I moved to Fort Atkinson, Wis., where I lived till 1879, when I moved to Flandreau, South Dakota where I engaged in the drug business.

I was elected as President of the State Pharmaceutical Association and was appointed President of the State Examining Board, three terms. Have been pre-

scribing medicine for the sick for nearly a quarter of a century and hold diplomas of M. D., Ph C., Ph D. In Oct. 1888 my wife died and in 1890 I was m to Miss Emma J. Sperry of Grundy Center, Iowa.

In 1894 I sold out my Drug interests in Flandreau and moved to Chicago where I have since resided at 760 West Adams St. I manufactured a Dr. White's New Hair Grower which had so large sales from Flandreau I was obliged to sell out and move it to Chicago where I could get better shipping facilities. At present it is made at Chicago and Montreal, Can.

I have been lecturing every Sunday twice and on several week day evenings for several years as my time will permit me to do.

I had one son by my first m and have one daughter by my second m both living in this city, Chicago.

Wm. Wilkins and Family.

Wm. Wilkins b Nov. 13, 1797, d Oct. 19 1875; Lucinda Grandy b Feb. 15, 1802, d Aug. 20, 1889, m Dec 3, 1823. Their children were: Diana Wilkins b Nov. 30, 1824, d Oct. 22, 1843; Wm. H. Wilkins b Nov. 25, 1826; Alamander Wilkins b Oct. 21, 1828, d Sept. 22, 1889; Arozina Wilkins b Jan. 13, 1831, d Mar. 10, 1832; Lucia M. Wilkins b Nov. 10, 1832, Samuel C. Wilkins, b June 25, 1836; La Roy Wilkins b Jan, 25, 1843.

Of the foregoing, Wm. H. Wilkins m March, 1853, to Mrs. Rebecca Worsester, Alamander Wilkins m July 12, 1852, to Lorette E. Gilson; Lucia M. Wilkins m Apr. 22, 1851, to M. A. Buck; Samuel C. Wilkins m Jan. 20, 1868, to Louise Hollenbeck.

The above parents and children were all b in Reading, Vt.

Oliver Whitmore Family.

Oliver Whitmore, b in Weathersfield, Vt., 1781, came to Reading 1802, bought and moved onto the farm known at the present time as the Whitmore place in 1814, and there he d April 22, 1845, at the age of 64 years.

He m Lydia Morse, daughter of Alpheus Morse, who was b in Reading, May 23, 1783. She d at the same place where they settled in 1814, Aug. 1866, at the age of 83 years.

The children were all b, m, settled and d in Reading, except Zilpha who went to Alden, N. Y.

Arvilla Whitmore, (daughter of Oliver and Lydia) was b Sept. 28, 1803 and d Oct. 19, 1887. She m Bradford Holmes. Arvilla's children were—Alzina who m George Buck; Laura who m Morris C. Newton; Jennett who m Leander Rockwood; John who m Martha Colby and Elmer who d in the army unmarried.

Arvilla's grandchildren and children of Alzina were—Martha Buck who m Clarence Wilkins; Walter who m Mary Weston; Byron who m Hattie Solger; Helen d unmarried; Eunice who m David E. Burnham; Carrol and Carrie, twins. Carrie is now the wife of Harry Burnham who lives at Reading Center on the Asa A. Burnham place.

Laura's only child was—Burton M. Newton who m Mary Watkins.

Jennett's children were—Irene who m Elmer Sherwin; they have one son Ben; Herbert L., druggist who resides in Windsor, Vt.; Alice A., who m George D. Burnham. They reside in Felchville.

Priscilla Whitmore, b in Reading, April 8, 1806, m Joel Holden, April 22, 1827. He d May 23, 1850. She then m William A. Wait, Oct. 8, 1854. Priscilla d in Felchville June 24, 1893. William A. Wait d in Felchville Feb. 19, 1880. He was a soldier in Co. A. 12th Vt. Vols.

Priscilla's children were—Geo. S. Holden, b in Reading, July 23, 1837, d Oct, 1842, and Orsemor S.

Holden b in Reading, July 30, 1843, m J. Ellen Nutting Andover, Vt., July 2, 1873. He is a painter and musician and has always resided in Reading. He has held the offices of town representative, road commissioner, Justice of the Peace and other town offices.

Nelson Whitmore, (son of Oliver and Lydia) was b in Reading, Jan. 23, 1880, was a carpenter by trade and had served the town as selectman, and Justice of the Peace. He lived on the place his father bought in 1814, until his death, Feb. 11, 1880, at the age of 72 years. He m Lucy Holden, Dec. 27, 1831. She was b April 26, 1806, in Reading, d Oct. 30, 1888, at the age of 82 years. They were m on the first farm settled in Reading and in the same house now owned and occupied by Marcellus Bryant

Nelson Whitmore's children were—Jane A. b May 30, 1833, m Milo B. Cooke, Oct. 10, 1855, (Their only child was Vernon C. See the Milo B. Cook geneology).

Osceola A. b Sept. 2, 1838 now of Malden, Mass., a noted musician, who m Ellen L. Paige of Pomfret, Vt., Aug. 21, 1862. She d Aug. 22, 1894 in Malden.

Kosciusko A. b in Reading, Nov. 10, 1842, d in the army 1862, aged 20 years.

Of Nelson Whitmore's grandchildren, Bertha L. daughter of Osceola, was b Sept. 29, 1866, in Reading m Walter Lawler of Boston, Mass., Feb. 21, 1893. They have two daughters, Doris and Ruth; Carlotta P. b in Malden, Mass., June 13, 1869; is a teacher of music.

Christina Whitmore, b Nov 23, 1809. m Nathan Sherwin of Reading.

Christina's children were—Sylvanus, who d; Oliver who m Louis Pierce; and Ethelbert who m Ann Shedd. Ethelbert d July 31, 1897 at Felchville.

Oliver's children were Jennie who m Frank Simmons of Woodstock where they now reside, and Dean who m — Sisco of Quechee and they reside in Woodstock.

Ethelbert's children were Sylvanus M. who m

Marcia Hawkins; Eloise who m George Wilson of Cavendish, Orlando who m Alice Amsden of Reading. Sylvanus M., has one daughter Maude; Eloise has two sons, Charles and Harry; Orlando has two, Birdie and Claude.

Jerusha Whitmore b Dec. 10, 1811, d April 24. 1890; was m to Lyman Cady, May 22, 1839. by Rev. Samuel C. Loveland. He d Sept. 6, 1892, aged 86 years. They had no children.

Lydia Whitmore, b Jan 29, 1814, m Samuel Persons, b August 4, 1805; Lydia, d June 1, 1879; Samuel d Jan. 16, 1881.

Lydia's children: Harriet E. b Feb. 1, 1833, d Aug. 18, 1895, in Keene, N. H.; m Wm. P. Chamberlain, Jan. 8, 1856.

Harriet's children—Alice Chamberlain, who d in infancy, and Berdie Chamberlain, b Oct. 1863; m Mr. Huntress. They have three children—two sons, one daughter.

Forest G. Person b Feb. 11 1834; m Jane Pierce.

Forest's child — one daughter, Gertrude, m Wm. Ingram of Rutland, Vt. They have one daughter, Mariam.

Aurelia Whitmore, b April 21. 1816, d Sept. 12, 1898; m Jonas G. Allen, b Jan. 9, 1813, d March. 20, 1868, Aurelia had only one child, a son, Theodora, J. b Oct. 24, 1846, in Reading, d in April 1887, in New York City, a noted musician. He m Susie Hildreth, b June 1, 1847, in Haverhill, Mass, she d in June. 1893. They had no children.

Zilipha M. Whitmore, b in Reading, May 7, 1818; m William Wilkins, and went to Alden, N. Y., where she lived and d. They had no children.

Charles S. Whitmore, b in Reading, April 23, 1823, d Jan. 6, 1892; m Melissa N. Hatch, b in Weathersfield, Vt., Dec. 2, 1823. They were m June 5, 1845. Their only child, Arnold Whitmore, d in infancy. Chas. S.

act of legislature restricting the privilege of receiving and dissecting dead bodies to the four medical colleges, the dental college combined with and came under the management of Tufts college, such dissection being a condition of membership with the National Association of Dentists.

Dr. Wetherbee was 15 years professor of Dental Science and Operative Dentistry at the college, one year president of the American Dental association, and two years its treasurer. During all these years he maintained his large practice.

He was married in 1837, to Sarah Abbott Sheldon, of Pittsford, Vt., who d in 1870. He later married Miss Almira Woods, of Arlington, by whom he has had two children,—a son, Dr. Irving J. Wetherbee, who has continued his father's practice as a dentist, and a daughter, Ellen W. the wife of Mr. L. A. Bowers.

CHAPTER XXXII.

The White Family.

Genealogy of The White Family.

Rt. Rev. John White, a bishop of the English church.

William White, a pilgrim on the Mayflower, 1620.

Resolved White, b in Leyden, Holland, about 1614.

Samuel White, b in Massachusetts 1646.

John White, b about 1680; killed by Indians in 1710.

Cornelius White, b Feb. 11, 1711, m Hannah Gilbert.

Capt. Samuel White b 1739, d in camp at Roxbury, Mass. 1778. He m Thankful Gilbert and left three sons.

Thomas White, b Nov. 10, 1767, d Dec. 21, 1805, leaving four sons and a daughter. An early settler in Cavendish.

George White, b in Cavendish, Jan. 8, 1797, d in Felchville, Dec. 30, 1873. He was a copperplate printer and engraver, and for many years a resident of Felchville.

George White m Electa Cushman Oct. 15, 1821. Her genealogy is as follows :

Robert Cushman, pilgrim on the ship Fortune, and Thomas Cushman, at 13 years of age came on the Fortune in 1621.

Rev. Isaac Cushman, b in Mass., Feb. 8, 1647.

Isaac Cushman, b Nov. 15, 1676, d Sept. 18, 1727.

Nathaniel Cushman, b May 28, 1712, d Oct. 1, 1793.

Consider Cushman, soldier in French and Indian war, b July 6, 1740, d April 4, 1819.

Azahel Cushman, b in Brookfield, Mass., 1795, d in Chester July 12, 1816. He m Laurana Wood of Brookfield, Mass., May 2, 1786. She was b Feb. 1768 and d in Greenbush May 11, 1837.

Electa Cushman, b in Montague, Mass., June 17, 1803, d in Felchville Nov. 25, 1881.

Susanna, the widow of William White, m Gov. Edward Winslow and became the mother of Gov. Josiah Winslow.

Resolved White, m a daughter of Gov. Edward Winslow.

Thomas White, m Betsey Lincoln March 1, 1790 and came from Westmoreland, N. H. to Cavendish soon after. Betsey Lincoln was b in Brookfield, Mass. in 1758 and was distantly related to the family of Pres. Abraham Lincoln. Gov. Levi Lincoln of Massachusetts who d in 1868 was a fourth cousin of Thomas Lincoln the father of Abraham Lincoln. This governor's father was also Gov. Levi Lincoln, b in 1749. Betsey Lincoln who was the daughter of Seth Lincoln had a brother Levi, but there is no proof that he became governor. All the Massachusetts Lincolns were of the same family however, being descended from Samuel Lincoln.

Robert Cushman was the business agent and manager of the Pilgrim Fathers and though not a clergyman, preached the first sermon in New England that was ever printed. This was in the year 1621. The text was Rom. xii; 10. He d in England in 1625. He left his son Thomas in the care of Gov. Bradford by whom he was reared and educated. This son, Elder Thomas Cushman, m Mary Allerton, the last survivor of those who came over in the Mayflower, and he was for forty-three years the ruling Elder of the first church in New England. He was b in England in 1608 and d Dec. 10, 1691. Lt.-Gov. Henry W. Cushman of Massachusetts wrote and published the history of the Cushman family, and Charlotte Cushman, the famous actress, was a

descendant of Robert Cushman.

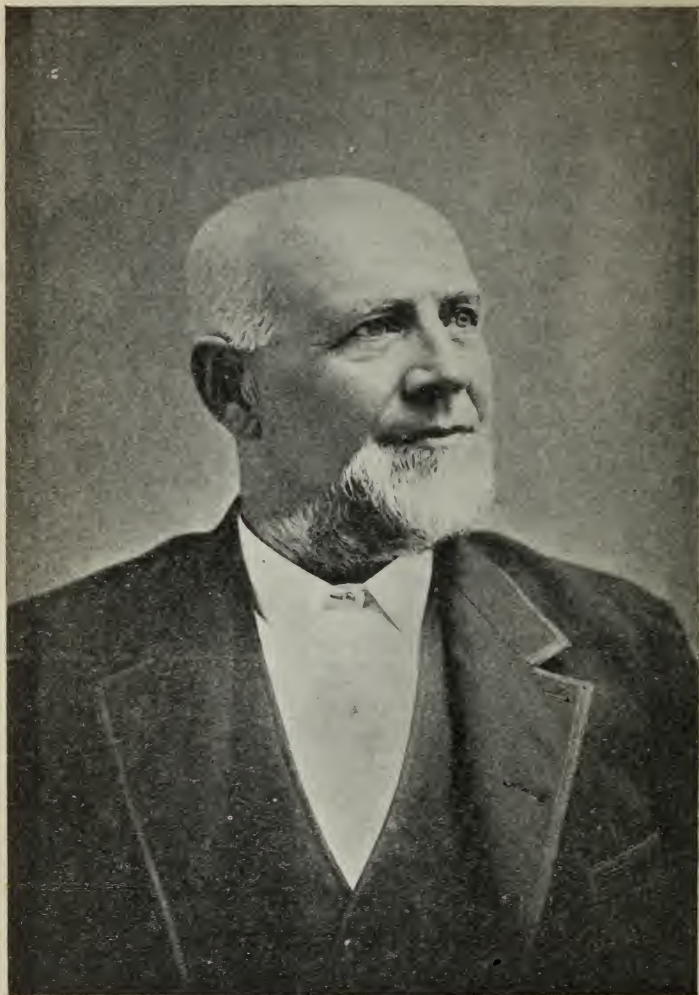
The children of George and Electa (Cushman) White were, Stellah, b in Quechee Apr. 21, 1823, d there Sept. 3, 1824, and was buried there. Plin, b in Quechee Aug. 8, 1824, d in Reading, May 16, 1886. Aurora, b in Cavendish, Sept. 7, 1829, m Alonzo Rogers June 5, 1851. Azro, b in Reading, Oct. 2, 1833 not far from where Captive Johnson was born among the Indians ; d in Felchville, about half a mile from his birthplace, Feb. 14, 1900. He was a soldier in the 16th Vt. Volunteers and participated in the battle of Gettysburg. Afterwards for many years, under the name of Hank White he was known throughout New England as a favorite minstrel. Homer b in the tavern at Greenbush, town of Weathersfield, March 9, 1837. Edwin, b in Greenbush, Feb. 21, 1840. Calista, b in Greenbush Aug. 26, 1841 ; m Frederick B. Merrill June 23, 1868. Hugh, b in Greenbush July 9, 1844.

Sketch of Homer White.

Homer White, son of George and Electa (Cushman) White. was b in Greenbush March 9, 1837. At the age of seventeen he went to Newbury to learn the printing business of L. J. McIndoe, publisher of 'The Aurora of the Valley'. The next winter he attended the public school taught by H. B. Atherton at what is now known as Amsden. In the spring he attended Black River Academy at Ludlow. That summer he worked on the 'People's Journal' published by H. W. Rowell at Littleton, N. H., and here he first appeared in print. The next winter he taught school in North Springfield and in the spring entered the law office of J. Q. Hawkins at Felchville. After a few months he went to New York City, and worked at his trade for about a year.

He then, through the generosity of his brother Plin, entered the Mt. Washington Collegiate Institute on the

corner of Fourth and McDougal Sts., and preparing for college entered Union College, Schenectady, a year in advance and graduated in the class of 1861. Resuming the study of law, he graduated from the Law Department of the University of the City of New York and was admitted to the bar in 1862. In war time there was little law business and he went to work again at printing in New York City and Odgensburg. Went west and was m to Catherine Frances Carhein Nov. 10, 1861 in Detroit. Worked in Milwaukee and taught in Taychudah and Kenosha, Wis. His only child, Georgia, was b in Taychudah Sept. 6. 1866. He became a candidate for orders in the Protestant Episcopal Church and returned east in 1867. Taught school in Windham that winter and in the spring worked in the printing office at Springfield. Was ordained deacon by Bishop Bissell in St. Paul's Church, Windsor, June 13, 1869, and a priest in the same church June 5, 1870. His whole ministerial life of thirty-three years has been passed in the three towns of Enosburg, Northfield and Randolph. He received the degree of S. T. D., from Griswold college in 1892. Mrs. White d in Enosburg Falls, Aug. 29, 1878. His present wife was Martha E. Cramton of Enosburg and they were m April 15, 1880. Besides writing and preaching a great many sermons, he has written and published five novels, one, 'The Norwich Cadets', in book form, and a large number of short stories, poems, lectures, etc. His cacoethes scribendi, inherited from his father, has descended to his daughter.



AZRO (HANK) WHITE.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

"Hank" White.From The Inter-State Journal.

Azro White—more commonly known by his stage name, 'Hank' White—was b in Cavendish, Vt., Oct. 2, 1833, and d suddenly of neuralgia of the heart, in Felchville, Feb. 14, 1900. His parents were of more than ordinary intelligence, his father George White, working in his younger days with the Eddys, who resided in Weathersfield, and were among the early printers of Vermont. They printed the entire Bible, with engravings, in which the apostles are depicted in modern garb, with stove pipe hats. Mr. White was afterwards an engraver and printer of maps. Azro was educated in the common school at Greenbush—now Amsden—where his father resided.

As a Boy and Young Man.

Hank White was always upright and manly, scorning to do a mean act, free from any debasing habits, never tasting intoxicants nor making use of tobacco. This was also true of all his after life. Hank was noted for his mirth provoking ability. There was always much laughter and hilarity in any company when he was present. Good nature seemed to reign; everybody was funny. They did not always think of Hank as the unconscious cause of it all, for he never seemed to be trying to be funny, but still the fun was an invariable coincident of his presence. He could make his face look like the face of any one else he chose, and he could imitate the voice to perfection. Whether it were the old negro, Dr. Brattle, broad-nosed Packard, Uncle Joe Dick, or any other human freak, his persona-

tion was so close to reality that every one recognized the living picture at once. He made glad the days of his boyhood friends and enlivened the streets and homes of his little village.' And for forty years after, on a broader stage, he brought to the surface all the hidden fun there was in the nature of those with whom he came in contact.

A letter lately written by a member of the United States Congress, who is burdened with affairs of State and whose mind is occupied with the consideration of many serious and important questions of national importance, speaks thus of Hank, a notice of whose death the writer had seen only in the newspaper. "Probably no comedian ever lived who pleased me as much as Hank White. I enjoyed him more than any other comedian that I ever saw." This is a voluntary tribute from one who was personally a stranger to Hank and all his family, and proves that the United States Congress is not devoid of appreciation of genuine humor.

As a Printer.

Hank White, at the age of seventeen, went to Windsor to learn the printing business and served a term as an apprentice in the office of the Vermont Journal, where he was associated for a while with the now veteran editor, Hon. A. N. Swain, of Bellows Falls, with whom he maintained a life-long friendship. Mr. Swain writes: "On his advent to the office one of the first things he did was to name the 'bodkins' 'pegging awls' but generally he was too wary to be sent out on the street for any such thing as 'a quart of editorial' and had too much kindness of heart to see others imposed upon in a manner which in the parlance of the the printing office, he thought could not be 'justified'. If his 'proof' was 'foul' or his type on the 'galley' 'off its feet' he had a ready explanation that he had to use 'italic spaces,' and his countenance could always be readily turned to good

account into an eight, twelve or eighteen mo. 'form,' in which the future comedian was plainly visible. If he 'pied' a whole 'stick full' he would make it appear only a few 'quads.' 'Outs' and 'doublets' he abhorred in common with his colleagues, but was too genial to use 'slurs' and always placed his 'quoin' in the 'bank,' while in market quotations he considered it an improvement to change 'oats' to 'cats'. Those were the days of the hand press, and sometimes it took a whole night to work off an edition of the 'Journal.' On these occasions Hank was very useful. The midnight or two o'clock morning hour was liable to be drowsy, dull, heavy, fretful; there were even possibilities of ill temper. It was then that Hank shown out as a successful diplomat and mediator. Few words, almost entirely pantomime, and passing back and forth once or twice from press to composing room, all the while posing in the various attitudes of an important ambassador, the 'strained relations' of his classmates would relax, and at three or four in the morning, the whole office force would be refreshed into a charming state of peace for a brief nap at the break of day. Such was Hank in the printing office. His sunny ways and disposition were both an entertainment and relief from monotony or vexation."

Hank in New York City.

From Windsor Hank went to New York City, where he remained for several years. Much of his time in the city was spent in studying theatre and negro minstrel performances, and he thus prepared himself for the business in which he was destined by nature, as well as study, to make himself distinguished.

Hank as a Minstrel.

About 1860, he returned to Vermont, and with George M. Clark, another Greenbush boy formed a negro minstrel company and commenced to travel, under the name

of Broadway Minstrels. Clark made a study of the plantation negro while teaching singing in Florida. Hank's negro was not the conventional burnt cork darkey of the minstrel show, but the real article and *sui generis*. The one whose characteristics he evidently absorbed and probably the only real black he ever knew when a child, was "Doctor" Brattle, who had once been a slave and belonged to the family that gave its name to Brattle street in Boston, and who, living near Greenbush, carried a pair of saddle bags and collected and dispensed roots and herbs. He was an original, the hero of innumerable funny stories, and the butt of many jokes in the first half of the present century.

It was at Burlington, as Clark used to tell it on the stage, that they were going through their program when a man from "the east side of the mountains" very much embarrassed them with the exclamation, "Broadway Minstrels be darned! I know them felers; they are from Greenbush, Vt." They never appeared under their metropolitan title again, but found they could stand on their own merits and soon, as Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels, became very popular and great favorites all over New England, the Canadas, and northeastern New York. They met with great success and everywhere drew large houses for more than twenty-five years. E. P. Hardy, the brother of the late Judge Hardy, of Keene, was their business manager. The last concert of each season was at Felchville. Vt., and the proceeds were given to the Free Public Library of the village.

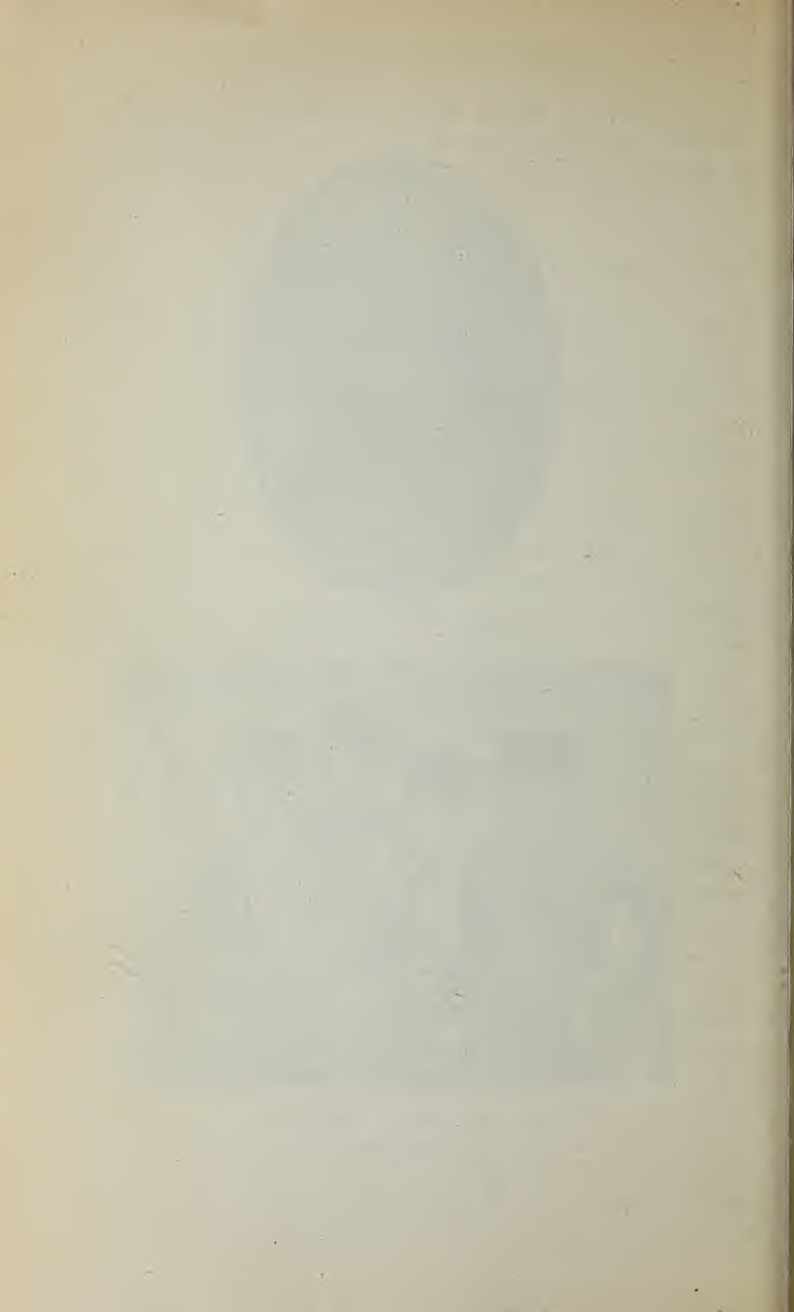
Hank White was true to his country as he was to his fellow men. In 1862, both he and Clark enlisted in Co. E. 16th Vt. Regt.—Col. Veazey's. He was at the battle of Gettysburg, his regiment belonging to the famous 2nd Vt. Brigade, that covered itself with glory in that battle. Dr. George Spafford, who was the surgeon of that regiment, says of them, that in the opinion of the Colonel they did more good with their jolly ways and



"Hank" at 22 Years of Age.



THE BROADWAY MINSTRELS.



care dispelling songs, in inspiring the heavy-hearted and homesick, and averting sickness from their comrades than half the medicines administered by the regimental surgeon. Hank and Clark were often invited to headquarters to sing before Gen. Meade and his staff.

A Couple of Reminiscences.

Hank's humor was often beneficial and helpful in the army and camp. It is related that when his regiment left Brattleboro for the seat of war, they were placed in cars and a long wait was tiring the soldiers into gloomy reflections of home and the future. Hank saw the situation and took his position on the car platform in the 'umble attitude of Uriah Heep, with a cyclone cloud on his face. Soon an officer passed and observing him exclaimed: "What's the matter, Hank?" "Don't want to tell," said he. "What is the matter?" "I don't want to go." "Why?" "I'm 'fraid." "What are you afraid of?" "'Fraid I shall get hurt." Such episodes soon placed the soldiers in good spirits for a start.

His hyperbole and extravaganza were without conceit and sometimes as good as Joe Jefferson's Bob Acres in the duel scene of the Rivals, as for instance when Hank related how in the battle of Gettysburg, he faced (behind a rock) a rebel battery of three hundred guns, which all fired at him at the same time.

Kindness.

Many a young man with whom he has associated on the road, speaks of the uplifting effect he had upon their lives—the encouragement he gave them to live rightly, to let alone drink and habits that would finally lead to their ruin.

He helped, pecuniarily, more than one homeless, to a home and an academic education that fitted them for a life of usefulness.

Only the great hereafter can reveal all the results of

the manifold kindness he performed.

He married Miss Kate Felch of Felchville, his partner, Geo. M. Clark, having before married her sister, Miss Lucinda Felch. Both Mrs. Clark and Mrs. White have survived their husbands, and now reside in Felchville.

No children blessed the union of Azro White and wife, but what was denied them in this way they endeavored to supply in the good they did for others. One son, an adopted one, Howard White, is left to comfort and care for his mother, and mourn the loss of one who, to him, was more than a father.

The following article will explain the origin of the poem "To Hank White". The author of it is now Judge John A. Aiken of the Superior Court of Mass.--Ed.

Greenfield Mass., Nov. 7, 1903.

My Dear Sir :

I send you the verses you ask for. They appeared Dec. 10, 1881, in a paper called "Before the Curtain", which was printed in Greenfield from time to time, whenever a "show came to town".

The publication used to contain a program of the performance together with advertisements of local tradesmen and some brief comments on local happenings and concerns.

The particular occasion for the verses was a performance of the Whitmore & Clark's Minstrels, a company at that time and for a considerable number of years well-known, as you are no doubt aware, all over New England.

I presume there were other artists of merit in the company (certainly it would be ungracious to assert otherwise) but as I recall the past Hank White was "the whole show". I have seen eminent "Endmen" in the burnt cork profession from time to time since, but none



"Hank" at Sunapee Lake, 1898.

of them, however, have displaced Hank White from the top place in my esteem. I hope the dear old man is still among the living, and if you ever see him, although I am a stranger to him, give him my regards.

John A. Aiken.

Gilbert A. Davis, Esq.,
Windsor. Vt.

To Hank White.

Immortal Hank, we all rejoice
Again to hear your welcome voice.
Saloons are empty, billards, beer.
All fail to draw, when you are here.
Boys bring their girls—the brave who dare—
“None but the brave deserve the fair”
(The rich oft get them, it is true ;
Alas this world is all askew !) ,
And girls whose fellows are not bold
All by themselves you here behold ;
Babes in their mothers’ arms are here
To see the man their dads revere ;
Republican and democrat ;
The rich, the poor, the lean, the fat,
Deadheads and paupers—every one
Who love ennobling generous fun.

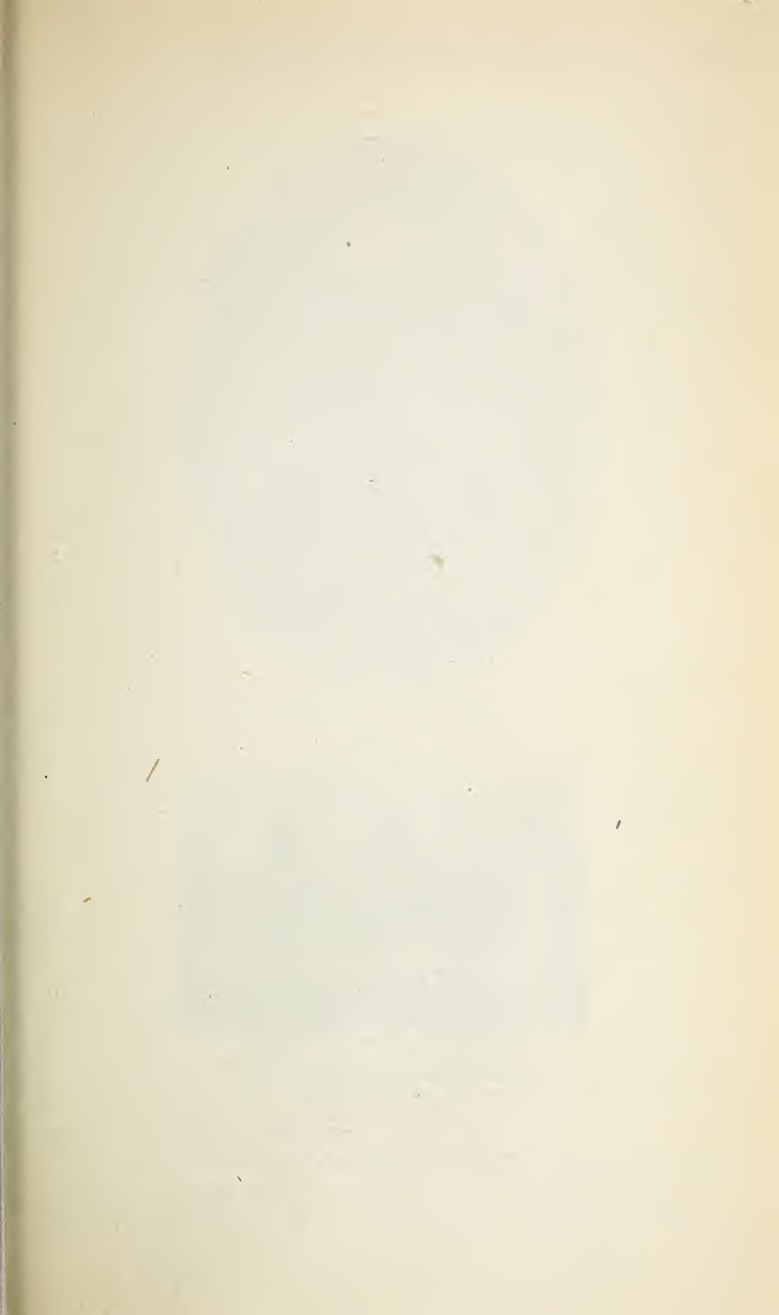
Long is the time since first we saw
Burnt cork on your expansive jaw ;
Time that is marked with joy and pain ;
Still small our wages, small our gain ;
But when we see your, each forgets
His mortgage, washbill, and his debts.

Such changes you had not foreseen
When first you took the tambourine ;
Fakirs and snides usurp the stage
With jokes of ancient lineage,

Murder the jests they've learned by rote,
And incorrect sing every note,
Stand on their heads and shout and yop,
Turn somersets, and flip and flop.

Illustrious Hank, we find in thee
True bard of ancient minstrelsy,
Whose sturdy sense rejects the base,
Despises all that's common place ;
Whose judgment, talent, humor, wit
Selects the best and cleaves to it ;
Whose fancy can create the new
And give the old an added hue;
Beside all these, in every part
You show the practiced actor's art.

Long life be yours, continued health;
A fruitful farm, increasing wealth;
May kindly Fate on you bestow
All blessings that we mortals know.
Our scanty pile we'll share with you
'Tis not a gift ; 'tis justly due—
But, ah, the clock is striking eight,
And all the boys impatient wait.
At half past ten you'll count the tin.
Up, curtain ! Let the show begin.



circus as clown and singer for several summers in the meantime. Mr. Clark was stage manager and musical director for the Minstrels and composed much of the music that was used. He has written more than twenty-five songs, both words and music, among them being "Annie's Grave", "I'll Meet 'Thee, Darling Kate", "Flora Belle", "Don't Run in Debt", etc., many of which have become quite popular.

Mr. Clark and Mr. White were ever ready to help out local societies and organizations with their services and many have been materially benefitted through their aid. The Reading Library has received large sums through their generous efforts, and it can truly be said that they devoted the best part of their lives for the amusement and happiness of their fellow-beings.

'Tis better to make people laugh,
Than to cause them needless pain,
For there's never too much sunshine
To scatter the mists and the rain.

Frank H. Clark.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Reading's Fame as a Musical and Dramatic Center.

By Frank H. Clark.

From the days when all the business and social life of the township was drawn to the "Center-of-the-Town", down to the present time, Reading has been famous for her musicians and dramatic artists.

Her earlier fame was not so widespread as it has been later, for in those days the music was confined to the church choirs and singing schools, and there was no attempt to practice the dramatic art.

'Squire Wm. L. Hawkins was a noted pedagogue in his day and taught singing schools as well as the common schools. He was the leader of the choir in the old "Meeting House at the Center" and was one of the first to introduce the violoncello as an accompaniment for the choir in this country. This was before organs were introduced into church, and all of these instruments were looked upon by many of the congregation as implements of the evil one and not fit to be used in the worship of God.

The advent of Mr. Eleazer Dexter to Reading in 1843 was of great importance to the musical and histrionic circles of this town for he was the forerunner of all the celebrated musicians and actors who have spread the fame of this rural community far and wide.

The following tribute to Mr. Dexter was written by Henry W. Stocker, a singer of note who was born and lived for many years in the neighboring town of Windsor, Vt., now residing in Hartford, Conn.:—

"The small but beautiful town of Reading, Vt., nestling among the foot hills of the Green Mountains and almost o'ershadowed by stately Ascutney Moun-



GEORGE M. CLARK.



GEO. M. CLARK'S RESIDENCE.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

George M. Clark.

The name of Geo. M. Clark and "Hank" White are so closely connected that to their many friends wherever one is mentioned, the other comes unbidden to the mind. Geo. and Hank, as they were familiarly known, were associated from their youth, first as stars in local dramatic clubs, and small traveling companies of players, then as comrades in the army and lastly as members of the famous Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels, well known throughout New England, Northern New York, and the Provinces. The memory of many old-timers will take them back twenty-five or thirty years to these entertainments, which for good music, wholesome fun, and genuine old-fashioned minstrelsy have never been excelled. Old friends went "to see Hank White perform and to hear Geo. Clark sing" as they expressed it, and although the other parts of the performance were well rendered, the two veterans were the leading attractions which sustained the reputation of the company.

George Merritt Clark was b in Clarendon, Vt., Sept. 10, 1833, and d at Felchville, Vt., June 5, 1885. His musical genius developed at an early age, and in his boyhood days he was the fiddler at all the country huskings and kitchen dances in that neighborhood. He continued to fiddle after he moved to this side of the Green Mountains, then taught singing school, sang in the choir and otherwise cultivated the voice which afterwards made him famous.

In 1866, with O. A. Whitmore and E. P. Hardy, he organized the Whitmore & Clark's Minstrels, and was with that organization until his death, traveling with a

tain, has long been celebrated for the number and excellence of the musicians and showmen that have called it "home."

Among them were Eleazer Dexter, Geo. M. Clark, Azro ('Hank') White, Osceola A. Whitmore, Theodore J. Allen, Jonas Allen, O. S. Holden, Lyman Read, Lucian Read, Carlos Hawkins, Don C. Hawkins, Darwin E. Washburn, H. L. Rockwood, Charles T. Conant and Budd D. Hawkins; and among others that have temporarily resided there were, Sam Brock and Al. Taylor of the old time "Brock's Broadway Minstrels."

The spirit of music and minstrelsy may be said to have hovered over this place from the arrival of Eleazer Dexter, the veteran of them all. He was a younger brother of "Blind" Dexter who, forty or fifty years ago was known from Canada to the Gulf as the proprietor of "The Car of Beauty", a vehicle similar to the more modern travelling photograph car. It was handsomely painted and gilded, with stained glass windows, and a hand organ furnished music with the aid of the local small boy at the crank, and the attractions consisted of several groups of wax figures, among which was the murder of Jennie McCrae by the Indians; stereoptican views, Indian relics, a collection of ancient and modern weapons, and mineral and fossil curiosities, etc.

Young Eleazer travelled with his brother until the latter's death, and used to relate many stirring and interesting incidents to the writer on their "Starring Tours" as they travelled through New England with a team with "Dexter's Pictorial Concert Co."

Either just before or just after his connection with his brother, he was a member of "Old Dan Rice's Circus Co." and rode a horse in the ring dressed as a young lady, and also did a "black face" act called "Jump Jim Crow."

Once while in New Orleans with his brother, they stopped at a hotel and in the room next to theirs was a party of gamblers, trouble arose and a man was stabbed and killed, his body taken away, and a few days afterwards it was found in the river. Owing to his youth, his brother's blindness, and the desperate character of the gamblers, the Dexters said nothing of the affair and left the city the next morning. The murderers were never punished.

One day as we were driving along the bank of the Connecticut river in the town of Westmoreland, N. H., he pointed to a rock on the river bank and said to me: "I sat on that rock once with my old cornet on my knee and my little bundle by my side and debated in my mind whether or not to jump into the river and end my lonely existence." He was then on the aimless wandering that finally brought him to Reading. There was a dance at the hotel on this evening of his arrival and Allen's band, which furnished the music was minus a cornet player. Mr. Dexter volunteered to play, and that night he went home with Mr. Allen and became a devoted and cherished member of the family until the day of his death. Soon after his arrival in Reading he organized a brass band and with his stirring stories of show life, planted the seed that afterwards took root, blossomed and bore rich fruit. He, with Mr. and Mrs. Allen, made frequent tours, giving vocal and instrumental concerts with considerable success. Later enterprises were "Dexter's Panorama" and "Dexter's Pictorial Concert Co." Among those that traveled with him at different times were William P. Chamberlain, the author of "Hurrah for Old New England" and who is now a successful business man of Keene, N. H.; Eddie Lincoln, for many years a member of Whitmore and Clark's minstrels; A. J. Maxham, the campaign singer, and Henry W. Stocker, now of Hartford, Conn.

A brief description of one of the entertainments in

which the writer took part may be of interest. Imagine some little village far from the railroad, nestling among the New England hills. A cozy country "tavern" where we "put up;" a country store and post-office; a church; a school house, and a little community of neatly painted houses and an occasional old, weather beaten two-story square structure, in which generations had lived and died. Our arrival was generally hailed by many old friends of Mr. Dexter, of whom he had made hosts in his years of travel. Just before the opening of the door we would give a cornet concert, and the old hills rang to the notes of quicksteps, marches and familiar tunes. The little crowd gathered quickly, and the young folks kicked up their heels and pranced like young colts, while their elders kept time with heads, hands and feet. Our program began with "Hurrah for Old New England", or some other rattling chorus, then came a ballad by the writer, followed by a funny story by Mr. Dexter while number two made a quick change to appear as "Chestnut Green" or "Reuben Glue"; then a duet. Next number two in an Irish or Dutch character, etc., etc. This was part first.

Part second was a series of interesting, instructive and amusing dissolving views, accompanied by a lecture and descriptive songs. These views consisted of battles, sea views, places of historical interest, comic pictures and chromatropes, and the entertainment was concluded by Mr. Dexter in "Adam and Eve", a song which he sang "by request" for years. It was amusing to hear some country swain turn to his "best girl" after some interesting number and, after drawing a long breath, remark,—"By gol! that's pretty good duins". These trips were greatly enjoyed by us both, and seven trips together cemented a friendship never broken by a harsh word and enduring to the end.

His kind heart and ever open hand prevented his accumulating money. He was loved and honored and

was chosen by his fellow townsmen to represent them in the legislature where he was a conspicuous figure in his blue coat and brass buttons. He died in 1897 and sleeps in the shadow of the hills he loved so well, in the town where his best and happiest days were spent."

Jonas G. Allen was another old time favorite musician, being a violinist or fiddler as they were then called and an excellent performer on the violin. He wrote many jigs, reels and hornpipes which were all the rage at that time, also a popular set of waltz music, called the "Lynden Waltzes". Dexter and Allen were inseparable names in the musical annals of Reading, and both were known as firstclass musicians; Allen and Dexter's Quadrille Band furnishing music for innumerable country balls for many years. They also belonged to the Reading Brass Band which had for members about the year 1850,—E. Dexter, cornet and leader; Carlos Hawkins, E-flat clarinet; Gustavus Cady, B-flat clarinet; O. A. Whitmore, B-flat clarinet; Oliver Sherwin, E-flat bugle; Leander Rockwood, E-flat saxhorn; ——— Hodgeman, trombone; J. G. Allen, ophicleide and Amiel Rockwood, bass drum.

Carlos Hawkins was another fiddler who played with Allen and Dexter and called the changes for quadrille dances as prompter, in all the towns around for many miles. There were so many contras and quadrilles on the programs that the services of a prompter were in greater demand than at present, and Mr. Hawkins was one of the best that ever called the changes at a country ball. He began to play the violin when he was 10 years old and played for husking bees, apple parings and kitchen dances before he was of age. While he was attending the Green Mountain Liberal Institute in South Woodstock, in 1847, he took his first lessons on the violin, paying Leverett Lull of Woodstock \$10.00 for ten lessons, a big price for those days.

About thirty years ago Mr. Hawkins organized

"Hawkins' Band" and that has been the favorite music for dancing parties and balls throughout that section ever since. The present members are C. Hawkins, 2d. violin and prompter; Don C. Hawkins, a son, 1st violin; Harland Hawkins, a grandson, double bass and Arthur Allen, cornet, a remarkable instance of three generations of musicians in one organization. 'Squire Hawkins who was mentioned in the beginning of this article was grandfather of Carlos Hawkins.

William P. Chamberlain a native of Swansey, N. H. was one of the sweet singers of Reading, travelling with the "Broadway Minstrels" and other musical organizations during the civil war period. He soon forsook the lyric stage however for the dry goods counter, and found the notes of the latter more satisfying to himself if not to the public, than those of the former. Perhaps 'twas more blessed to receive the notes of banks than to give the notes of song. Mr. Chamberlain sang in the different choirs of Felchville for many years, until he removed to Keene, N. H., where he is now a successful merchant.

We are indebted to Mrs. Minnie Amsden Coy of Windsor, Vt., a native of Reading and a member of various choirs in Felchville for a list of the noted singers who have sung in the different churches in Felchville and helped to spread the fame of this community as a music loving people. The list does not pretend to be complete but only such as Mrs. Coy could gather in the time at her disposal.

"God sent his singers upon earth
With songs of sadness and of mirth,
That they might touch the hearts of men
And bring them back to Heaven again."

From the year 1840 to 1860 the famous singers of Felchville included the following names: Mrs. Daniel Stearns, Harriet J. Felch, Eliza Kendall, Augusta Robinson, Belinda Bailey, Mrs. J. M. Stearns, Emily Felch,

Mary Felch, Mrs. Fisher. Mrs. Cordelia Kimball, and Messrs. Wm. Felch, Joseph Davis, Wm. Wait, Chas. A. Forbush and Chas. L. Thayer.

They sang in the old brick church, with no music but a bass viol which was played by Benj. M. Kendall, and Chas. L. Thayer used to pitch all the tunes with a tuning fork. A friend writes, "In my dreams of the musical past of Reading the bass viol of Ben. Kendall plays (as it used to in church) a very soul-shaking part. How the sounds he evoked would emphasize and enforce the lessons of a blood-curdling sermon and make the small boy determine he would never be bad any more."

Between the years 1860 and 1875 we find other singers coming to the front, a Union church built and an Estey melodian installed with Calista White, Lettie Elgar and Ella Jones White as players and Wm. Wait with his bass viol. The singers during these years were Mrs. Harriet Gates, Mrs. Henry J. Hewlett, Sarah Benjamin, Elizabeth M. Coburn, Eliza Townsend, Addie Robinson, Mrs. J. P. Osborne, Julia Brown, Mary Brown, Nellie Goodell, Mrs. Morgan (of Middle-of-the Town), Jane Megrath, Jennie Jones, Kate Felch, Lydia Putnam, Melvina Hoadley Jennie Hoadley, Carrie Watkins, Elizabeth Walcott and Messrs. George M. Clark, O. S. Holden, W. P. Chamberlain. Dr. J. P. Osborne, Henry J. Hewlett, P. B. Walcott, Marcus Townsend, Henry T. Fletcher, John McCullough, Geo. W. Shedd, Dexter P. Gates, Dr. S. H. Morgan, Hosea Benjamin, Gilbert A. Davis and Caleb Chase.

From the year 1875 to the present time some of the older singers and many new ones have sustained the musical part of the divine service in the two churches in Felchville; Mrs. Anna Hook, Mrs. D. E. Washburn, Susie Persons, Mary Gates, Etta Gates, Sarah Gates, Mrs. D. E. Burnham; Mrs. F. C. Morgan, Mrs. Geo. D. Burnham, H. Gertrude Roscoe, Mrs. F. E. Fogg, David

E. Burnham and Ed K. Hewlett.

The following were members of the Baptist choir for some years : Minnie Amsden, Dora Stearns, Nellie Kendall, Alice Kendall, Hattie Kendall, Corydon M. Fay, Geo. W. Kendall and Charles Kendall, Carrie Kendall acting as organist.

The most famous musical organization which originated in Reading was undoubtedly Whitmore & Clark's Minstrels, a company that for more than a quarter of a century annually visited every part of New England, and parts of New York and the Provinces, and the memories of which will be remembered with pleasure by many an "old-timer". The company was organized at the close of the Civil war and was the successor of several similar organizations that had been more or less successful, S. A. Brock's Broadway Minstrels, Whitmore & Thompson's Minstrels and others.

The first two seasons the troupe showed under canvas, but after that gave hall shows until disbanded. How well one remembers the row of black faces looking out in a semi-circle, as the curtain rose, with the immortal Hank White on one end, Geo. M. Clark on the other, and the other members of the company between. The rollicking opening chorus, followed by comic and sentimental songs, interspersed with the jokes of the end men and the funny wind up, would close part first. Part second consisted of a clean cut musical and variety entertainment the feature of which to many, was the singing of Geo. M. Clark, the whole concluding with a side-splitting after piece in which the inimitable Hank was the shining star.

These entertainments were always well patronized by the best people of the towns and cities visited and there never was a complaint by the thousands who attended the show year after year, such as is heard of the cheap vaudeville companies that travel at the present time.



WHITMORE & CLARK'S MINSTRELS.



The members of the company would meet at Felchville and have a few rehearsals several days before starting on the road for the season, and the season usually closed in the same village, the proceeds of the show often being given to the Reading Library Association, and many volumes were added to the library in this way.

Of the proprietors of the company only one, Osceola A. Whitmore, was a native of Reading. He was born on the old Whitmore place Sept. 2, 1838, a son of Capt. Nelson Whitmore, at one time captain of the militia company and Mrs. Lucy (Holden) Whitmore. Young Whitmore must have been inspired by the old time music of the fife and drums, which he says was the most important part, to him, of the annual June training. The players were Otis Foster, snare drum, Henry Megrath, fife and Capt. Nathan Sherwin, bass drum.

Mr. Whitmore began to play the clarinet at an early age, his first engagement in public being at the hotel in Hammondsville in 1855 for a dance, playing with Carlos Hawkins and for which he received for his valuable services the sum of twenty five cents. He received his first instructions on the clarinet from Alonzo Bond of Boston, who taught the Woodstock Band about this time, and was a member of the band in 1860 and '61, and went into camp at Rutland in May 1861 with the Woodstock Light Infantry. In the beginning of the war, when the first call for three months' men from President Abraham Lincoln was made the government did not employ bands, so the band returned to Woodstock when the company left for the seat of war. Afterwards he travelled with Barnum's Circus and was with the Whitmore and Clark troupe for twelve years after it was organized. The name was retained after Mr. Whitmore retired from the organization except for one or two seasons.

Mr. Whitmore has lived at 1014 Salem street, Mal

den, Mass., for many years and for the last twenty five years he has been connected (at different times) with all the leading theatres in Boston as solo clarinet; has played in all the firstclass opera companies, German, Italian, French and English; was a member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, seven years, and of the Germania Band, eight years; also with Hall's and Carter's Bands, and has a record of which any musician might well be proud.

George M. Clark was the son of N. Goodnow and Ann Eliza (Rounds) Clark and was b in Clarendon Springs, Vt. He inherited his musical genius from his mother, his father not being able to distinguish one tune from another. He was a natural musician, playing the violin and other instruments with skill, and he had a wonderful rich baritone voice which he cultivated until it was under perfect control. He was at his best in sentimental and pathetic ballads, and there was a sympathetic quality in his voice which moved the feelings of his hearers. His enunciation was clear and distinct and he could be heard in all parts of the largest hall or tent.

In his younger days, when he used to teach singing schools, many would go to hear him sing rather than to learn how to sing themselves, and it frequently has been said by his admirers that they had rather hear him sing than any one else they ever heard. After he began singing in large circus tents his voice became a little harsh, perhaps, but it never lost its sympathetic expression and timbre.

He was stage manager and musical director of the minstrel company from the start and always kept up the high musical excellence which it soon attained. Many a firstclass musician owes his advance in this beautiful art to the training he received from Geo. M. Clark, while a member of Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels.

Mr. Clark composed many of the songs which were sang by the company, many of which became very popular. He also wrote much church music which was rendered by the various church choirs at Felchville.

Mr. Clark was original and quick at repartee and many anecdotes have come down to us from his associates. Perhaps the one that has been most widely quoted is the reply he gave a rather pompous lawyer in a court room in New Hampshire. He was an important witness and the opposing lawyer tried to decry his testimony by calling attention to the low calling he was engaged in, blacking his face, playing the clown in a circus, etc. Mr. Clark said it was rather a low calling, but so much better than what his father's was that he was proud of it. Upon the lawyer's inquiring what the father's calling was he replied, "He was a lawyer, sir," which brought down the Court and spectators, and so disconcerted the lawyer that he asked no more questions of the witness.

E. P. Hardy of Keene, N. H., 'Press' Hardy as he was called, was one of the proprietors and the general manager of the show. He was a man of striking personality and in face and figure bore a marked resemblance to the caricatures of Uncle Sam. He usually wore a blue coat of antique cut, ornamented with bright brass buttons, and those with his imposing figure would greet each one as he came into the doorway of the hall as door-keeper, and his stentorian voice would strike terror to the hearts of the bad boys in the gallery. He had travelled with a circus in early life and like his friend Hank White he worked on his farm at Keene between seasons, varied by horse trading and real estate dickers. He also dabbled in politics, holding various town offices and serving one or two terms in the New Hampshire legislature.

Although Hank White was not a great musician either by nature or education he was a natural comedian and his comic songs never failed to bring down the house.

He was a consummate actor and story teller and his quaint way of telling his experiences as an "end-man" and his trials and tribulations in the "farce" during the show always kept the audience in a roar.

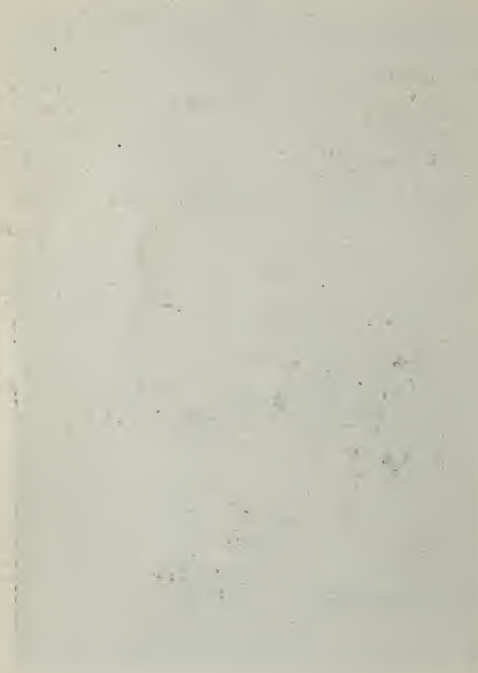
A correspondent of the New York Sun, writing of these minstrels and of Hank White, said; "As a boy in a northern New England town he was happy to see the posters announcing Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels. Who would be the lucky boy to carry the handbills from house to house, announcing the names of the artists to appear, and thereby insure tickets to the show?"

"Hank was the magnet that drew the crowd and he was to be found with his "tambo" at the end of the line, while opposite was George Clark, of hardly less popularity. Hank's mouth, when set in a background of burnt cork, had the appearance of having terminals immediately below each ear."

Another writer said: "Hank White was a natural mirth maker, and while he was content through practically his entire career to limit his appearance to the one-night stands of rural New England, there have been scores of burnt-cork entertainers with almost world-wide fame who possessed not a tithe of his talents. It was in a measure by his own election that he never sought and obtained recognition on the metropolitan stage. During the greater part of his professional career he divided his time about equally between the stage and his farm in Reading, Vt. As he once assured me he used to raise horses on the farm, and then go on the road to raise money to buy oats for the horses. George M. Clark, whose name must always be associated with that of Hank White, also called Reading his home, although he was seldom there. During the summer, while White was tilling his farm, Clark was on the road with a circus, and few better clowns ever donned the motley, For several seasons he was principal talking and singing clown with the Barnum and Bailey show. That was



"HANK" WHITE as KING of MINSTRELSY.



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS

before the days of the three-ring show, when the clown was a much more prominent factor in the circus performance than he is today.

Hank White perhaps resembled the late Billy Rice more than he did any other of the more widely known burnt-cork artists. Like Rice he was of Falstaffian proportions, and possessed a mouth of such generous size, that it easily lent itself to the most grotesque grimaces. Like Rice, too, Hank White always sat on the tambourine end of the circle in the minstrel first part.

I don't think I ever saw another end man who put the same amount of energy and vigor into thumping the tambourine that White did. I always expected to see him put his fist through the sheepskin, and on at least one occasion I was not disappointed.

I don't suppose that White's jokes and gags were really much funnier than those of the average end man since negro minstrelsy began, but he had a quaint way of telling them that was all his own, and seldom failed to evoke roars of laughter. He had a way of exchanging bandinage with Clark about affairs in their home town of Reading which carried the fame of that hamlet to the distant parts of New England. One of these trifles which I recall, which almost invariably made a hit was White's remark that Reading was a nice town, and he had only one fault to find with it there was usually a week or two in July when the sleighing was bad."

One song of which White and Clark used to sing alternate lines, entitled "We'se going to the Shucking of der Corn" was retained in their repertoire season after season and I think that any attempt to have cut it out would have been deeply resented by their patrons. The opening lines ran like this.

"Miss Lucy said she loved me,
She said she loved me too,
To me she gave her heart;
To me I know she's true."

The old song seems simple enough today, but there are probably thousands of people in New England who may possibly recall the time when it afforded them a pleasure that they cannot find in the rag-time ditties of the present. At any rate, it contained none of the suggestiveness that seems almost inseparable from the modern "coon" songs. And that was one thing that might be said of every line spoken or sung by the members of Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels. There was not a joke of a double meaning, or a word or expression likely to offend the most straight-laced person in the audience. No one had to apologize for having Hank as a friend, for he was a man always, and many will remember him thus, as well as for the laughs he caused them. He had political honors, at one time being a member of the Vermont Legislature. Had he made a speech before his fellow law-makers a previous announcement of the fact would have insured a "full house."

Several natives of Reading have been members of Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels, among them, O. S. Holden a fine tenor singer, who travelled with the company for several seasons. He still lives in his native town and keeps right on singing to the delight of all who hear him.

Theodore J. Allen was another celebrated musician, who was a member of this company for some time and played the cornet with some of the celebrated bands of the country. He was a son of Jonas G. Allen, and under the instructions of his father and his friend Eleazer Dexter he became proficient with that instrument and was one of the leading cornetists of this country for many years.

Chas. T. Conant a violinist of note, now a member of the Windsor Orchestra, played with the company for two or three seasons and fully sustained the reputation Reading has acquired as the home of good musicians.

There are many others, not members of this organi-

zation who have added luster to the musical annals of Reading. Will J. Foley, a young cornetist, who died before he had fully developed all the musical ability that was in him. Fred C. Hammond, a first-class violin player, who has played with the Springfield Orchestra for a number of years; Herbert L. Rockwood, an excellent piano player, who was a teacher upon that instrument for some time and is now a member of the Windsor Orchestra; Darwin E. Washburn clarinetist of Felchville and the younger members of Hawkins' orchestra, who have already been mentioned; Dr. F. C. Morgan of Felchville is an excellent violin player although not a member of any musical organization..

While so much has been written of the musical side of Reading we must not forget that she also has an enviable reputation as the home of some dramatists of note.

The following sketch of W. Henri Wilkins appeared in the "Amateur Theatrical Record," Clyde, Ohio, a paper published by A. D. Ames, a publisher of many plays and other theatrical productions. It is as follows. "We take pleasure in presenting to our readers a brief sketch of the life of W. Henri Wilkins, a name very familiar among amateurs in all parts of the United States and Canada. Mr. Wilkins is one of the few, very few authors who possess the happy faculty of blending the humorous and pathetic in a drama, in such a pleasing manner as to almost universally suit, not only companies, but the public, and so far as he has written we consider him the most successful writer of amateur dramas we have ever known.

He was born in Reading, Vt., January 1, 1853, and made his first appearance in public on a stage, in a dialogue at a school exhibition, at the age of ten years, and was very successful. He met with flattering success in all he attempted in this line but it was not till 1870 at the age of seventeen that he attempted to write a play.

This was while attending the Green Mountain Perkins Academy, at South Woodstock, Vt., and the play was "Rock Allen, the Orphan ; or, Lost and Found."

This was produced for the first time at Felchville, Vt., in 1871 by the Union Dramatic Club and was in all respects a decided success. The original cast appears in the published play No. 45 of Ames' list. The next year at the age of eighteen he was chosen valedictorian at the above mentioned academy, and the drama placed in his hands. From the success which had attended his previous efforts, he determined to try again and at the end of four weeks the play, "Three Glasses a Day ; or, the Broken Home," was completed. The part of Zeke Wintergreen he wrote for himself, and that of Honie Montford for a room mate of his, Mr. F. W. Shattuck. In fact, each character was designed for some of his special friends. It is needless to say that this drama was successful, and it was pronounced by the public as the best one ever presented there."

He has also written "The Reward of Crime ; or The Love of Gold", "The Turn of The Tide; or, Wrecked in Port," besides several farces and sketches which have attained wide popularity. Since living at South Woodstock as a store-keeper Mr. Wilkins has lived at various places and been in various enterprises. He is now in the crayon portrait business at Claremont, N. H.

Among the leading spirits of the Reading Dramatic Company which never failed to fill the hotel hall at Hammondsville with an enthusiastic audience, were, Ellis E. Cross, Hugh White, Henry Sumner, Merritt G. Amsden, Don C. Hawkins, Verne C. Cooke, H. L. Rockwood, Budd D. Hawkins, and Mrs. T. J. Allen, Mrs. E. E. Cross, the Misses Kate Stearns, Irene Rockwood, Ella Foley, Alice Megrath, Mary E. Sawyer and Katie White.

Much more might be written upon this interesting subject, and more anecdotes and reminiscences be gathered, but time and opportunity will not admit, and we close the subject with regret.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

The Carter Family.

Rev. Ira Carter,

(From Zion's Herald, May 11, 1903.)

Ira Carter, whose death occurred from pneumonia, in Cambridge, Mass., March 20, 1903, was born in Corinth, Vermont, Jan. 11, 1817. He was of Puritan ancestry, being descended from Thomas Carter, who came from England in the ship 'Planter' in 1630 and settled in Salisbury, Mass. His mother, Fanny McAlister, was of Scotch-Irish stock that settled in New Hampshire.

Mr. Carter received his early education in the public schools of his native town and later in Newmarket Academy and Newbury Seminary. When in Newbury he became a member of the class in theology started by Prof. Baker, afterwards Bishop. This was the beginning of what is now the Boston University School of Theology. After Mr. Carter's removal to Cambridge two years ago, he was an honored visitor to the school. It was a touching testimonial to the esteem in which he was held, as well as a memorial to his early connection with the school, that at his death a committee of students was sent to act as pall-bearers at his funeral. Six of them bore his body to the Harvard Street Methodist Episcopal Church, where appropriate services were held on Sunday, March 22, Rev. F. J. McConnell, the pastor, officiating. Memorial services in charge of Rev. W. A. Baker and Rev. M. V. B. Knox were also held at Wahpeton, North Dakota, where the body was taken for burial.

The early ministerial life of Mr. Carter was spent in New Hampshire and Vermont. He joined the New

Hampshire Conference at Westfield, Vermont, in 1845, was ordained deacon by Bishop Elijah Hedding at Barre, Vt., July 9, 1848, and elder by Bishop Edmund S. Janes at Claremont, N. H., May 6, 1855. His appointments were Guildhall and Bloomfield, Westfield, Londonderry, Woodstock and Bridgewater, in Vermont; Unity, Wilmont, Moultonboro and Dublin, Walpole, Stratford, Tuftonboro and Wolfboro, and South Acworth, in New Hampshire. His pastorate at Wilmont was blessed with a great revival. At Stratford he built a church, and at Tuftonboro a parsonage. In 1859 he located. In 1867-'68 he was steward of Newbury Seminary, from which place he removed to Windsor, Vt.

He moved to So. Reading in April 1869 and bought the Hall farm from Washington Keyes, one-half mile south of the village on the road leading to Cavendish. Here he resided with his wife and two children, Minnie E. and Albert J. for six years and then sold to Walter Tarbell, who has ever since resided there. While Mr. Carter resided here he supplied the pulpits for the Methodists at So. Reading and Felchville.

He moved to West Windsor in April 1875, and resided there on the "America Amsden farm" until he removed to Richland County, Dakota in 1882.

Mrs. Carter died at Wahpeton Dec. 7, 1900

He preached at various places, often in schoolhouses and sometimes in dwellings where there was no church. He was always successful. It was largely due to him that the beautiful church at Fairmount was built. He took great interest in the prosperity of the church at large. He was just as faithful in his attendance and service under the weight of fourscore years as in his pioneer work. He celebrated his eightieth birthday by preaching to a large and appreciative audience in his home church at Wahpeton. His last sermon was delivered when he was eighty-three.

In 1847 he married Elizabeth Shedd, of Springfield,

Vt., who from that time shared with him the hardships and triumphs of itinerant life. Their golden wedding was celebrated at Wahpeton, August 31, 1897. She went to the Homeland two years ago. All that their devoted children and grandchildren could do to make life pleasant in their declining years was done, but both were ready when the Heavenly Father called.

Four children are left, Edmund H., of Wahpeton, No. Dakota; Albert J., of Springfield, Vt.; Mrs. George K. Persons, of Cambridge, Mass.; and Mrs. James A. Strachan, of the No. Dakota Conference.

Mr. Carter lived a beautiful life. His vision was broad, his piety deep. Sweet-spirited and genial, loyal to his convictions and faithful in duty, he always won respect and love. His death was like his life—happy, trustful, peaceful.

J. H. K.

Susan E. Carter was b at Walpole, N. H., Aug. 9, 1852. She m Geo. K. Persons at So. Reading, April, 1875, and they now live in Cambridge, Mass. Their children are—Clair I and Alice C. Clair I. was educated at Harvard University. George K. Persons was a merchant at Felchville at the brick store north of the hotel.

Minnie E. Carter was b at Springfield, Vt., Dec. 31, 1858. She m Rev. James A. Strachan of the North Dakota M. E. Conference, and they have one child, Sarah.

Albert J. Carter was b Nov. 16, 1863. He m Josie Moyne in New York, March 15, 1898. He resided in Reading with his parents and was educated in the public schools. He removed to North Dakota with his parents and studied law with Hon. S.H.Snyder at Wahpeton, No. Dakota, and afterward graduated from the Law Department of the University of Iowa, taking the degree of LL.B., and being admitted to practice in all

the State and Federal Courts of Iowa, in June, 1888. He practiced his profession at Wahpeton, No. Dakota, but failing health compelled him to seek the climate of New England and he took up his residence in Felchville in 1900. Here he remained for about two years and then removed to Springfield, Vt., where he now resides, but is not engaged in active business.

Edmund Hamlin Carter, known to the older people of Reading as Ed. Carter, was b in Springfield, Vt., Aug. 9, 1848. His father and mother were Ira Carter and Elizabeth Shedd. He had the good fortune to be born well if that means having good parents. They were poor but commanded the respect of those that knew them. He descended from Thomas Carter who came over in the ship "Planter" in 1630 and settled in Salisbury, Mass. His maternal grandfather was Col. Jonathan Martin an officer of the Revolutionary Army and member of the first constitutional convention of New Hampshire. His education was gained in the district school at Springfield and at the Springfield and Newbury seminaries. The best part of his education was obtained in business life. In 1869 his parents moved to South Reading and the town of Reading claimed him as a citizen until 1880. He taught school at South Reading the winter of 1871-'2.

He traveled when a boy selling stencil plates and washing machines. Being a Yankee this work gave an education in the line of dealing with people which in the study of human nature, has been of much value in later life. After a time the desire to learn business methods led to seeking employment which would teach this and he was employed as a clerk and general salesman by Robins & White of Cavendish. Vt., C. M. Baxter of Woodstock, and Tuxbury & Stone of Windsor. The year of 1873 was passed in traveling in the west and in 1874 he entered into the dry goods business in Felchville, in the brick store north of the hotel.

Here, perhaps, the happiest part of life was passed up to the time a home was established. Where could one wish for more congenial environments than in the grand town of Reading among the good, kind-hearted people that lived there thirty years ago. But for all that can be said in praise of Felchville and its true and noble citizens some spirit of unrest was beckoning westward and the spring of 1880 found Ed. Carter on a Government Homestead in Richland county, Dakota Territory.

This at that time was a frontier community ; here he experienced hardships incident to the vicissitudes of a new country. In 1885 seeing the demand for money needed by the new settlers and believing that the fertile lands of the Red River Valley offered good securities, a trip was taken to New England to interest them that had funds for investment. This was the beginning of a successful loaning business. This is the business Mr. Carter is now doing. He can point with pride to the fact that in the past eighteen years he has handled large sums for New England investors, not a dollar of interest or principal has been lost. This is the result of honesty and good judgment.

Mr. Carter was m in 1896 at Baron, N. Y., to Genevieve Bason. Miss Bason was a teacher who had held good positions. She was preceptress for several years at Lima Seminary. This position was once held by the world-renowned Frances Willard. This union was the most fortunate event of his life and they now have a beautiful and happy home at Wahpeton, N. D. In politics Mr. Carter has been uniformly a Republican. He was elected assessor in 1884. In 1894 was elected Mayor of Wahpeton, being the first Republican ever elected to that position in a party contest. This office was held two years. While in that office a system of sewerage was completed and many other improvements. He considers his fight made against gambling and the social evil as his best work. In 1900 he was elected County Treas-

urer of Richland county and re-elected in 1902. This is a position of responsibility, as all county and city taxes are paid into this office, and also collections from the sale of school land. It pays the Treasurer \$2,500 a year. He is at present a trustee of the First M. E., of Wahpeton, also trustee of the Red River Valley University.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Attorneys: Natives of Reading, or Residents of the Town.

(Brief sketches of some of these attorneys will be found in other parts of this volume.—Ed.)

1 Adams, Luther, resided and practiced at No. Chester, Vt.

2 *Bailey, Chas. F., was born at Reading, July 27, 1857 and lived at home until 1873, when he entered the Green Mountain Perkins Academy at So. Woodstock, Vt., graduating therefrom in the spring of 1877. December, 1877, he entered the law office of Gilbert A. Davis, at Felchville, Vt., where he read law until June, 1880. In Aug., 1880, he removed to the State of Iowa. In the fall of 1880 he entered the Law Department of the State University of Iowa, graduating therefrom, in June, 1881, receiving the degree of LL.B., and was immediately admitted to the bar in the State of Iowa. In the fall of 1881 he opened a law office in Grundy Center, Iowa. In the fall of 1882 was elected Justice of the Peace, which office he held two years, declining a re-election. In February, 1884 he formed a partnership with A. N. Wood for the practice of law under the firm name of Bailey & Wood. In the fall of 1886 he was elected County Attorney for Grundy County, Iowa, which office he held two years. June 12, 1888 he was married to Laura E. Wells. The partnership of Bailey & Wood was dissolved about Jan. 1, 1891, and he practiced law at Grundy Center, Iowa, until the summer of 1892, and in the fall of the same year removed to Redlands, California, where he now resides.

Since coming to California he has, in addition to the practice of his profession, been engaged in orange growing, and has bought and sold real estate. He is a member of the Masonic Fraternity, also a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the Congregational church, is president of Redlands Young Men's Christian Association and for the past five years, has been one of

the school trustees of the Redlands school district, and is secretary of the Redlands Water Company, and is a director and vice-president of the East Highlands Orange Company.

3 Brown, Titus, resided at the Center. (See page 75, Vol. 1.)

4 *Buck, Edward R.

5 Buck, John L., was b on the "Coburn farm"; resided and practiced at Lockport, N. Y.

6 *Clark, Frank H.

7 Clark, Isaiah R.; resided and practiced in Boston, Mass.

8 *Coolidge, Ashbel G.; now residing at Rutland, Vt.

9 Coolidge, Omera H.; now residing at Rutland, Vt.

10 Crocker, — ; resided and practiced at Reading Center. (See page 76. Vol. 1.)

11 *Curley, Thos.; graduated at Tufts college. Resides in Waltham, Mass.

12 *Cole, Bert E.; resided in Reading. Admitted to the bar in 1902; resides at Windsor, Vt.

13 Crandall, Edwin J.; now residing in New York City.

14 *Davis, Fred C.; born near So. Reading. Resides and practices in Springfield, Vt.

15 Davis, Gilbert A.; born in Chester, Vt. Resided in Reading from 1860 to 1879, and since that time at Windsor, Vt.

16 Davis, Lysander M.; born in Reading. Resides at Pine Hill, Ala.

17 Dow, William Dexter; the son of Stephen Dow, was born at Landgrove, Vt., Sept. 5, 1826. He taught in N. J., one year; read law with Daniel M. Bates of Wilmington, Del., from 1856 to 1859. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1855, and for a long time resided at So. Reading.

18 Fullam, Sewell; born in Cavendish. Resided in Reading for many years. Subsequently resided at Ludlow, Vt.

19 Fuller, William Eddy; was born June 30, 1833 in Bridgewater, Vt, son of Jabez and Sarah Hudson (Churchill) Fuller. In early life he attended country schools in Bridgewater, Vt., and when sixteen years of age went to So. Woodstock Academy for three years, and then to West Randolph Academy for a little more than a year. In 1853 he joined the Freshman class of Dartmouth

college. Prior to this time he had as a rule been a student each fall and spring, a teacher each winter, and a farmer each summer. The family moved to Reading in his early boyhood, and during his school and college days he was a resident of Reading.

In February, 1855, he left Dartmouth and joined the Junior class at Harvard. He had gone to Taunton to teach school during the winter 1852-'53 and taught there each following winter, with the exception of a short time when he was assistant in the New Bedford High School, and upon graduation he became principal of the Taunton High School which position he held until Nov. 1860. He had previously given some time to the study of law in the office of Bassett & Reed in Taunton. He continued his studies in this office until April 1863, when he was admitted to the bar. Oct. 1, 1863 he entered into partnership with his classmate, Sproat, under the firm of Sproat & Fuller, in the practice of law in Taunton. This partnership was dissolved in 1866. He was register of probate and insolvency in Bristol county from 1868 to 1883. Dec. 1, 1883 he was appointed Judge of Probate and insolvency in Bristol county, which position he still holds. He has been a member of the Taunton school committee for many years; a trustee of Bristol county since 1864; a trustee and auditor of the Taunton Savings Bank since 1864, and director and for several years historiographer of the Old Colony Historical Society. For this society he has prepared several papers which have been published in their pamphlets. He delivered a brief address on the legal profession in Taunton on the occasion of the quarter-millennial celebration of founding of that city; also an address on the occasion of the dedication of the new county Court House in Fall River in 1882, and an historical address June 27, 1882, on the occasion of the centennial celebration of the founding of Bristol Academy. He is the author of a law book published in 1891, called "The Probate Law of Massachusetts", which has become a standard book of reference. He was married Nov. 21, 1859 to Anna Miles Corey, daughter of John Corey of Foxboro, Mass. They have two children, William Eddy Fuller, Jr., (H.V. 1892) b Aug. 14, 1870, now a practicing lawyer, and Mary Corey Fuller, b Aug. 14, 1873. His son is m and has a child, Wm. E. Fuller, 3rd.

From Secretary's Report [1899] of class of 1856 Harvard College.

20 Hawkins, Josiah Q., son of Wm. L. Hawkins, practiced at Felchville and Brandon, Vt. Represented Reading in 1858. Died at Brandon.

21 Hall, James Ashton, b in Reading Borough.

22 Hatch, Uriel C. Had an office at Felchville. (See page 76 Vol. 1). Was a Judge of Probate.

23 Johnson, Arthur T., son of Rev. Robert G. Johnson, b in Felchville. Practices in Boston, Mass.

24 Keyes, Wade, son of Wallace W. and Mary (Maloney) Keyes. Graduated at Tufts college. Resides and practices in Boston, Mass.

25 *Morgan, Ernest I., resided in Reading when a boy. Now in practice at Worcester, Mass. Graduated at University of Vermont and Boston University Law School.

26 Robinson, Frank M.; son of Marvin and Lucinda (Fullam) Robinson. Practiced at Dubuque, Iowa.

27 Robinson, Geo. O., brother of Frank M., practiced at Detroit, Mich. (See Robinson Family Chapter).

28 Robinson, Calvin L., son of Lewis and Sarah Robinson, practiced at Jacksonville, Fla. (See Vol. 1, History of Reading).

29 Robinson, Arthur S., son of Calvin L., practices at Chicago, Ill.

30 Robinson, Nelson, b in So. Reading on the farm long occupied by Ezra Robinson. Practiced in Boston, Mass., and Montpelier, Vt.

31 Sawyer, John York,	{	These brothers were b on the Sawyer Homestead where Alba Davis now resides.
32 Sawyer, Seth,		

33 Stearns, John Milton, son of Daniel and ——— Stearns, b on the Stearns homestead about one mile north of Felchville. Resided and practiced in Brooklyn, N. Y. (See Stearns Family Chapter).

34 Stearns, Oscar H., son of Benj. F. Stearns, b in Felchville in the home occupied by B. M. Newton. Practiced in Brooklyn, N. Y. Resides in Brooklyn. Graduate of Middlebury college.

35 Stoughton, Henry C., b in a house that stood on the west

side of the highway, leading from Albert Bixby's to John Durand's near So. Reading. Practiced at Otsego, Mich.

36 Taylor, Jacob Edson, son of Samuel Charles and Zilpha Bugbee Taylor, was b at Reading, May 16, 1831, taught school at Woodstock, read law with Converse & French, and practiced at Charleston, Ill. He m Ellen, daughter of Joel Eaton in 1861.

37 Washburn, Israel, b on the farm now owned by N. H. W. Jenne in northeast part of the town.

38 Wheeler, Smith, b in the Borough.

39 Watkins, Wm., b on the farm south of where John Williams now lives, near So. Reading.

*Read law with Gilbert A. Davis.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Methodism in Reading.

For many years the Union Meeting House at Felchville was occupied on alternate Sabbaths by the Universalists and Methodists; but the Methodists lost member after member, by death and by removals to other places, and since 1890, the Methodists have not maintained here the regular preaching of the gospel.

Since 1874, the Methodists have maintained regular preaching services at So. Reading, and up to 1896, have had a resident pastor there nearly all the time.

The Methodist Clergymen stationed at So. Reading since 1870, have been as follows.

1871, John L. Smith; 1871 to April '77, Ira Carter; April 1877 to '79, A. B. Enright; April 1879 to '81 C. H. Sweatt; April 1881 to '83, W. A. Bryant; April 1883 to April '86, Wm. E. Douglass; April 1886 to '87, W. F. Felch; April 1887 to 1890, R. C. Vail; April 1890 to '91, W. D. Spencer; April 1891 to '94, E. B. Harris; Apr. 1894 to '95, Moses B. Parounagian; April 1895 to '96, R. J. Gluckler. Since that time, the pulpit at So. Reading has been supplied as follows: April 1896 to '99, R. J. McGlaughlin, stationed at Brownsville; Apr. 1899 to '00, C. M. Charlton, from Perkinsville; Apr. 1900 to '01, G. H. Bolster, who was resident at So. Reading; Apr. 1901 to '02, supplied by W. H. White from Brownsville; April 1902 to — by Frank H. Roberts, from Brownsville.

Chas. S. Louis, a licentiate, has preached here to some extent.

Moses B. Parounagian is a native of Armenia, and has mastered the English language and Christian theology and began here his labor as a pastor. He is a

man of great mental power, earnest and forceful as a speaker, genial and sociable as a man and thoroughly imbued with the spirit of his calling. By his efforts, in 1894 the Methodists secured a controlling ownership of the pews, and at the memorable meeting of the pew-holders of the Union Meeting House, after an all day session, on the first Monday in January, 1895, succeeded in electing as trustees Calvin Robinson, Charles S. Louis and Abel Ray, Jr., and all Methodists.

Each party at this meeting was represented by a counselor learned in the law, J. W. Pierce, Esq., of Springfield representing the Methodists, and J. G. Sargent, Esq., of Ludlow representing the other factions.

This settled the controversies and since that time, the Methodists have annually been able to elect trustees and control the occupancy of the meeting house. However, the spiritualists have had the occupancy whenever desired which has usually been for only one or two Sabbaths in each year.

The Methodist society has been reduced in members by removals and deaths, but have kept up their organization and maintained public worship nearly every Sabbath at South Reading.

South Reading Meeting House Association.

This association was formed by voluntary association, and the first meeting was held on the 6th day of April 1844, for the purpose of building a meeting house on land to be conveyed by Lewis Robinson and Rufus Buck, situated westerly of Rufus Buck's store, in South Reading.

The site was conveyed by Lewis Robinson April 20, and Rufus Buck April 22, 1844 to Ebenezer Robinson, Jr., Benoni Buck and Washington Keyes, "in trust for "the said association and unto their heirs and assigns

"forever," and these gentlemen were constituted a committee to superintend the building of the meeting house. It was provided that the structure should be 54 feet long and 44 feet wide, the walls to be of stone and to be erected substantially according to a plan presented by Washington Keyes. Saxon A. Craigue was elected moderator, Hiram Goddard, secretary, and Orpheus Coburn, collector.

There was an important vote adopted at this meeting of April 6, 1844 as follows,—

Voted, that in the meeting house in contemplation each owner shall be entitled to the occupancy of the house his equal proportion of the time according to his interests in the same for the use of such denomination or sect as he may choose to employ.

The meeting house was built and completed in 1844 and the report of the building committee was accepted at a meeting of the subscribers, held on the 21st day of Dec. 1844 at which Col. John F. Swain was elected moderator. A sale of the pews by auction was provided for and took place Dec. 26th, and it was further provided that the buyer of the first pew, should have his choice in land 10 by 16 feet for a horse shed. Not all of the pews were sold and these remained the property of the Association. The pew holders were formed into an association and became a body corporate under the Vermont Laws, and By Laws were adopted for the regulation of their interests.

It was provided that the annual meetings shall be held on ten days notice on the first Monday in January of each year at which meeting a committee should be elected to have charge of the meeting house and the concerns of the association. It was voted that each pew holder should have one vote for each pew owned by him.

The tenacity of these people for the maintenance of their religious tenets is shown by the provision of the

following articles:

Article 3rd. "That said committee shall immediately after election make a division of the time for the occupancy of said house, setting to each individual according to his interest in said house, to that sect or denomination which they shall choose and to annually correct the list of names of owners."

Article 4th: "Every owner in said house shall have the right at the end of each year to change his occupancy and set the same as he may then choose."

The dedication of this house took place on Wednesday, July 22, 1845, under the direction of Lewis Robinson, Alden S. Page and Benoni Buck, Committee, and Rev. O. A. Tiletson, a Universalist, preached the dedicatory sermon.

Abel Bailey, Benoni Buck and Alden Page were elected a committee to make a division of the "time for occupancy of said house according to the Constitution."

On May 27, 1844, a small tract westerly of the land conveyed by Robinson & Buck was conveyed by John Watkins to Ebenezer Robinson, Jr., Benoni Buck and Washington Keyes, "their heirs and assigns forever."

This conveyed land as far westerly as Mill Brook, but in this deed there was no mention of any trust.

This meeting house was occupied by the different denominations, without much friction, and without any very material results in a spiritual sense until in 1894, the Methodists had become quite active and strong and had conceived the idea of obtaining the control of the edifice at least for the larger number of Sabbaths in each year and they set about getting a controlling interest by becoming the owners of the majority of the pews. Matters became interesting. There was a great searching of family records and histories to get at the heirs of the original pewholders.

It was found that all of the grantees in the trust deeds had deceased without conveying their respective

interests in the land conveyed to them by the deeds above mentioned, and that consequently it was uncertain as to who had the power to convey the unsold pews, that there was no living trustee to hold the title to this meeting house property, and that the land described in the John Watkins deed was not held in trust for this Association, but by the grantees their heirs and assigns in their own right.

The result was that Gilbert A. Davis brought a bill in equity in behalf of many pewholders and in accordance with the prayer of this bill, the Court of chancery for Windsor County at its Dec. Term 1896, made a decree reforming the John Watkins deed so that it would express the same trusts as are mentioned in the Buck and Robinson deeds, and appointing Calvin Robinson, Chas. S. Louis and Abel Ray trustees under the Lewis Robinson, Rufus Buck and John Watkins deeds to hold this real estate in trust for said Association for the uses and purposes for which it was organized.

In this suit Wade Keyes and Wm. E. Johnson appeared for some of the defendants.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Secret Societies in Reading.

Eastern Star Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons.

This Lodge was organized on the 23rd day of October 1815, at the hall of the Amsden tavern, now occupied by Budd D. Hawkins.

The charter was granted by the Grand Lodge sitting at Windsor, on Oct. 10, 1835.

The officers named in the charter were Dr. Silas Bowen, W. M., Dr. John Wakefield, S. W., John S. Hawkins, J. W.

The officers were present at the organization of the Lodge, except that John York Sawyer acted as J. W., pro tem. Justin Burdick was elected Secretary.

The members present were:—Stearns, Aaron Goddard, Abel Amsden, T. F. Hammond, Justin Burdick, Bailey Merrill, David Goddard, — Hatch, Sewell Fullam. The visiting brethren were: Gilman H. Shedd, Nehemiah Parker, Calvin Chapin, John Jewett, Dr. John Wakefield, Dr. Silas Bowen, and Justin Burdick were appointed a committee to prepare by-laws for the government of the Lodge and Bros. A. Goddard, Silas Bowen and — Stearns were appointed a committee to obtain all the articles necessary for the Lodge.

Dr. Darwin R. Story of Proctorsville writes as follows.

T. F. Hammond must have taken the two first degrees at some other Lodge, presumably at Windsor or Ludlow; his name is the ninth on the catalogue of members and before him are the names of Silas Bowen, John Wakefield, John S. Hawkins, Daniel Goddard, Aaron Goddard, John Hulett and Bailey Merrill. So I

infer those eight men were the charter members, although nothing is said, that I have been able to find, about charter members. There were 127 members. men from Reading and Windsor, West Parish. Probably one half of the members belonged to Windsor, and most of these men I knew when a boy. The meetings were held monthly except during the heated months of summer.

I find the Lodge had no number, until January 31st 5817 when it was numbered 41.

In Oct. following it was numbered 43. At the regular meeting Dec. 11, A. D. 5818, Calvin Chapin, Jr., of West Windsor was chosen Master, Rufus Root, Jr. S. W., and Joseph Stocking, J. W., A. North, Secretary. Luther Parker S. D., T. F. Hammond, J. D.

Jan. 12th, 5821, Jos. Stocking of West Windsor was elected Master, T. F. Hammond, S. W. Dec. 27th, 5821, Dr. Silas Bowen was again elected Master. At the Dec. election of 5822, T. F. Hammond was elected Master, and held the office yearly until Dec. election 5831 when Dr. John Wakefield was elected. There were only two communications after the above election until Jan. 9th, 5835 when the last meeting was held, closed in due form. T. F. Hammond was again elected Master, Dr. John Wakefield, S. W., A. Cummings, J. W., E. Worcester, treasurer, G. H. Shedd, secretary, A. N. Lincoln, S. D., E. Robinson, J. D., J. Cady, Tyler, Cyprian Woodruff and L. Hawkins, Stewards. All but Robinson and Hawkins were from West Windsor.

Dr. Silas Bowen resided at South Reading.

Dr. John Wakefield was a practicing physician and resided in the town of Windsor (now West Windsor) in a house on road from Marcellus Bryant's in Reading to W. H. H. Ralph's in West Windsor. This house has entirely disappeared.

Justin Burdick resided at Reading Center and conveyed to the town the land on which the brick meet-

ing house was erected in 1816. In addition to the above names I have obtained from various sources, the names of other members of the Lodge:

Abel Adams, Samuel Aiken, America Amsden, Abel Baldwin, Lyman Boutwell, Benoni Buck, John W. Emery, Abel Gilson, Jr. Samuel C. Loveland, Amasa Parker, Nehemiah Parker Jr., Abner Philbrick, Erastus Preston, Rufus Root, Benjamin Sawyer, Stephen Stafford, Levi Taylor, Jacob Washburn, and Samuel Lang of Weathersfield.

I. O. O. F.

Felchville Lodge No. 62, I. O. O. F. was instituted March, 17, 1899; by Grand Master Blakley.

At the organization Mt. Sinai Lodge, No. 42, of Proctorsville, worked the Initiatory degree, and Springfield, Lodge. No. 42, worked the first and third and Windsor Lodge, No. 55, worked the second degree.

The first officers were:—

F. S. Payne, N. G.; E. M. Watkins, V. G.; O. S. Holden, Sec., B. R. Wilkins, Treas.; C. A. Wilson, Warden; W. S. Rist, Con.; M. G. Amsden, I. G.; Geo. Roy, O. G.; G. D. Burnham, R. S. N. G.; O. E. Sherwin, L. S. N. G.; Dr. W. L. Knowles, R. S. V. G.; E. B. Watkins, L. S. V. G.; B. D. Hawkins, Chap.; H. E. Gardner, R. S. S.; E. K. Hewlett, L. S. S.

Charter Members:—

Orsemor S. Holden, Wallace S. Rist, Walter L. Parker, Carter A. Wilson, Frank S. Payne, Burt R. Wilkins. Elner M. Watkins.

Twenty-two members were initiated making 29 members of the Lodge at the time of organization. The membership July 1, 1903, was 46.

The regular meetings are held on each Wednesday evening in the hall in the Newton store building.

The Noble Grands have been—Frank S. Payne,

Wallace S. Rist, Chas. H. Sinclair, Geo. D. Burnham, Clarence N. Hook,

Elmer M. Watkins and Wm. H. Vittum are the only members who have died.

The Lodge room is nicely fitted up and the different degrees are worked in a manner creditable to all.

Members—

M. G. Amsden, D. E. Burnham, G. D. Burnham, D. D. Bannister, E. R. Buck, J. R. Bishop, B. L. Clark, E. E. Cross, L. A. Cushman, J. F. Call, C. M. Charlton, H. E. Gardner, B. D. Hawkins, O. S. Holden, C. G. Hutton, C. N. Hook, M. B. Horton, F. L. Hoisington, E. N. Howard, N. H. W. Jenne, C. H. King, Wade Keyes, Carl Lawrence, E. J. Marsh, F. H. Morse, B. M. Newton, E. A. Nichols, W. L. Parker, C. E. Parker, D. F. Pollard, F. S. Payne, Oscar Randall, F. M. Rowlee, F. O. Ranney, W. S. Rist, G. A. Roy, C. H. Sinclair, S. M. Sherwin, O. E. Sherwin, J. C. Taylor, G. C. Taylor, Wm. H. Vittum, E. B. Watkins, C. L. Wardner, C. A. Wilson, B. R. Wilkins, Wm. H. York,

Happy Thought Rebekah Lodge No. 45.

Happy Thought Rebekah Lodge was organized May 13, 1901, with eleven charter members, Mrs. J. B. White, Alice L. Burnham, George D. Burnham, Lena A. Cushman, Leslie Cushman, Lou. B. Hutton, Chas. G. Hutton, Etta Nichols, Elwin Nichols, Elmer Watkins, Minnie Whitaker. Mrs. J. B. White was the first Noble Grand, Mrs. Alice L. Burnham the second year, and Mrs. J. Ella Holden the third year.

Friendship Lodge No 41, of Windsor doing the floor work for us at the instituting of this lodge. Thirty-five new members were taken in that night, viz: W. A. Rich, Zylphia Rich, Jennie York, W. H. York, J. Ella Holden, O. S. Holden, Kate F. White, Alice B. Watkins, Nellie S. Morse, Alice F. Amsden, Ida F. Bannister,

Alice G. Sherwin, Lilla E. Perkins, Bertha M. Watkins, Mary L. Watkins, Nellie L. Bisbee, Inez Hoisington, Lettie E. Gardner, Mary A. Newton, D. May Grout, Lucia H. Gibbs, Lillie E. Churchill, Orza D. Churchill, F. L. Hoisington, H. E. Gardner, B. M. Newton, M. G. Amsden, G. C. Taylor, Fred O. Ranny, Chas. Sinclair, D. D. Bannister, Frank H. Morse, Budd D. Hawkins, Ernest W. Howard.

The members since added are:—Jennie N. Hoadley, Ethel M. Bannister, Helen L. Buck, Rachel M. Gilson, Hannah Gertrude Roscoe, Jessie Edson, Ella D. Hawkins, Mary R. Cross, Ellis E. Cross, E. W. Eastman, Genett M. W. Eastman, Ethel M. Ely, D. E. Burnham, F. M. Rowlee, Jemina Rowlee, Ella H. Lawrence.

The present membership is fifty-seven, one sister, Mrs. Cross has died, Hannah G. Roscoe withdrawn on account of leaving town, and two have been suspended for non-payment of dues.

Good Templars.

Rocky Rill Lodge No. 39 of the Independent Order Good Templars, was instituted May 13, 1882. It had 86 members, and held its meetings in the school house hall at Felchville, usually on Monday evenings.

The last recorded meeting is March 14, 1887. The records are in the hands of Minnie C. Fay.

This Lodge did good service in the cause of temperance but was superseded by the Blue Ribbon Club.

The Blue Ribbon Club was organized Feb. 12, 1887. The meetings have been held usually in the school house hall in Felchville. The membership in July 1903, was over 200. Meetings have been held once in two weeks. The object has been the promotion of temperance, and its influence in that line has been important.

CHAPTER XL.

Biographical Sketches, Continued.

Dr. Elkannah Day ; The Holden Family ; The Morse Family ; The Watkins Family ; Elisha W. Watkins ;
The Washburn Family.

In the first volume of The History of Reading, there is an error on pages 72 and 73 as to the identity of the Dr. Elkannah Day who was the first resident physician of Reading. This is not the Dr. Elkannah Day who treated the wounded at the time of the Westminster massacre and figured so extensively in the struggles about the conflicting claims of New York and N. H., to jurisdiction over the territory subsequently known as Vermont.

The Dr. Elkannah Day who settled in Reading was the son of the Dr. Day of Westminster—and was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1786 and immediately located in Reading, residing between the Amasa Watkins place and the J. A. Bixby place.

He was Town Clerk of Reading in 1791–1792 and Representative of the town in the General Assembly of 1790 and 1791.

He removed to Springfield, Vt. and died from being thrown from his horse at Springfield, Vt., in March 1808. He married Esther, daughter of Alexander Campbell of Oxford, Mass.

The Holden Family.

Jesse Holden was born Aug. 21, 1779 in Barre, Mass. and moved from Barre, Mass. to Barre, Vt., and from that place to Reading and located on the Hartwell place on the west side of Mt. Moses and afterward on the Bailey

farm, now occupied by H. S. Fay.

He m Lucy Persons, a sister of Samuel Persons. He was a farmer. His son, Joel Holden was born in Reading Feb. 17, 1804. He m Priscilla Whitmore. He was a farmer and lived on the Ed. S. Hammond farm, July 30, 1843, at the time his son, Orsemor S. was born. He moved from this farm to the hotel in Hammondsville, known as the "Forest House", and in the spring of 1848 moved to the hotel in Felchville which he kept about one year, until his death in April, 1849.

Joel Holden's sisters were Lucy, who m Nelson Whitmore, (see the Whitmore family chapter) Abigail, who m Lewis Rockwood.

The Morse Family.

Joseph Morse came to Reading as one of the early settlers and m Sarah Annis of Hartland. He was a farmer and lived on a farm near Bailey's Mills, subsequently owned and occupied by Benj. Weston. He had three children--Sprague Arnold Morse, Adaline Morse, Wm. S. A. Morse.

Wm. S. A. Morse had a common school education. He m Eliza Cady and became a merchant at Bailey's Mills in co-partnership with O. A. Keys about 1843.

Then he moved to So. Reading and went into partnership with Lyman Cady, keeping a general store in the "Buck Store" for several years, and on the dissolution of the firm, Mr. Morse moved into the Robinson store, a stone building, and carried on the mercantile business until about 1854. when he sold out to Asahel Wilder and removed to Baileyville, Stephenson County, Ill., and engaged in the business of farming. He removed from Baileyville to Grundy, Iowa, where he d. Asahel Wilder was in business about two years. O. A. Keyes, the son of Royal, and grandson of Solomon Keyes. Royal Keyes m Eleanor Annis of Hartland and subsequently removed to Chelsea, Vt. O. A. Keyes m

Caroline Tenney of Hanover, N. H., and was in partnership with Wm. S. A. Morse at Bailey's Mills, and removed to Proctorsville and went into mercantile business in the brick store; and after a few years removed to Plattsburg, N. Y., and kept a liquor saloon and d there.

The Watkins Family.

Amasa Watkins emigrated to Wallingford, Conn., from Ireland. He m Lucy Wright, a native of Scotland, Sept. 1, 1791 and came to Hartford, Vt. where three of the sons were born.

Elisha W. Watkins m Drusilla Robinson, daughter of James Robinson. She d Dec. 1891, leaving two daughters,—Caroline, who m Collamer T. Fay, and Mary who m John McCollough, and one son, Frank W. Watkins, who was b at Reading and here spent his boyhood days. He then carried on the business of Gents' Furnishings at Rutland for several years, but later returned to Felchville and carried on the home farm of his father, but in the fall of 1902 sold the farm to E. A. Locke of Lexington, Mass., and returned to Rutland.

Elisha W. Watkins was a prominent and influential farmer. He resided near Cavendish and southerly of South Reading for many years, but during the last years of his life owned and carried on a large farm in Felchville. He held the office of selectman and was one of the wealthiest men in town.

The Washburn Family.

Phillip Washburn was one of the first settlers of Reading and had a deed of 75 acres of land from Nathan Sherwin. He came from Bridgewater, Mass., and located on this land which is in the northerly part of the town near where Nathaniel H. W. Jenne now resides. He had only one son, Israel Washburn, who built the brick house now occupied by Mr. Jenne.

Israel Washburn had 6 children, Lemuel B., Charles

Israel Jr., Levi, Alice and Rufus—all born in Reading. Lemuel B. was born Aug. 22, 1799 and d May 10, 1847. He was the most energetic of the three brothers who settled in Reading. He lived and died on the farm now occupied by Mr. Rowlee, just south of the old homestead of his father. His daughter, Melvina, m Benjamin F. Stearns, and an account of her children will be found on another page of this History.

Charles was a farmer and lived and died on the farm next north of the old homestead where his son, Charles T. still resides.

Israel, Jr., was educated in the common schools. Was a noted lecturer on temperance, studied law, was admitted to the bar and located and practiced his profession at Holley, N. Y. He had two daughters, one of whom, Mary, m John H. French, LL.D., who at one time was Secretary of the Vermont Board of Education, and prepared and published French's Series of Arithmetics. Mr. and Mrs. French subsequently managed a school in Pennsylvania, where Mr. French died.

Levi and Alice d when children.

Rufus was a very industrious, hard working and successful farmer, and owned for many years the old home farm. His daughter m Henry N. Jenne, then of Hartland, but now of Proctorsville, Vt. Their son, Nathaniel H. W. Jenne still resides upon the old farm and has been a Selectman and Justice of the Peace in Reading.

CHAPTER XLI.

Business Enterprises in Reading.

The changes in the methods of handling the milk produced on the farms have been very marked. The butter and cheese produced by the old method, on each farm was of good quality as a general rule and commanded good prices, but the amount of labor thus thrown upon the farmer's wife, daughter and "hired girl" was enormous, and this with the hand sewing, knitting, making of clothes and the endless round of daily toil and drudgery, brought many of them to premature graves.

The sewing machines, cheese factories and creameries have relieved the women of this drudgery giving them time for rest, recreation and study. As these burdens have been lifted, so in proportion has the life of woman been elevated and refined. The college for women has come as a natural sequence of these changes, and women have taken their places in society and business in the more congenial occupations of clerkships, type-writers, compositors, and in the learned professions.

The Felchville Creamery Association was organized in 1888 and became a corporation under the laws of Vermont. A building was erected at Felchville at the rear of the Universalist church, on land bought of Clark Wardner, and equipped with a steam engine and all the apparatus necessary for the manufacture of butter by the Cooley system.

This business was carried on for a number of years, but was discontinued in 1893, and the real estate ultimately passed into the hands of Gilbert A. Davis, who is the present owner.

It was used by Geo. H. Whitcomb in the early part of 1893; by Galen L. E. Tarbell from the fall of 1893 to

the fall of 1894; by said Tarbell and Alstine J. Grow from Nov. 1894 to spring of 1895, and then subsequently by Mr. Grow alone, for the manufacture of butter tubs. In the fall of 1901 it was fixed up for a printing office and rented to Edwin White & Son, and has since been occupied by them for that business.

A building was erected at South Reading about 1893 by an association, and has since that time been occupied as a cheese factory. Dr. F. C. Morgan became the sole owner in 1899 and operated it until the fall of 1901.

In 1901 a building was erected at Hammondsville by the "Hammondsville Cheese Co.," and has been used ever since by said company for the manufacture of cheese.

For some time Linneus H. Whitcomb carried on the manufacture of cider, about a mile north of Felchville, in the building that for many years was occupied by Hosea Benjamin for the manufacture of doors, sash and blinds. After a variety of owners this property was conveyed to Gilbert A. Davis in —, and has since been occupied by Chas G. Hutton and Stephen R. Spaulding for the manufacture of cider.

The "Amsden Tavern" near by on the south side of Mill Brook, has been occupied for the last few years by Budd D. Hawkins for the putting up of garden seeds. He commenced in a small way to raise and put up garden seeds adapted to the climate of New England, and his business has gradually increased and has been carried for with skill and industry until the annual output has become very large.

The business of wool carding, of blacksmithing, of a saw mill, grist and oil mill and of a retail dealer in general merchandise, which was for many years carried on at Bailey's Mills, has long since entirely disappeared and those extensive buildings have, to a large extent, fallen to decay and the once valuable water power has become useless since the dam was carried away by a flood.

The grist and saw mill and rake factory of Carlos

Hawkins are still in profitable use a short distance west of Hammondsville.

The several mills at South Reading are abandoned. Within 40 years there have been in that village the steam circular saw mill of Wetherbee and Davis, the saw mill of Edwin W. Royce, Charles L. Louis' circular saw mill and shingle mill, propelled at one time by water and later by steam and the saw mill, grist mill and cider mill at the westerly part of the village with a long list of owners, including Alphonso Washburn and John Williams. Henry Allen, Samuel Cole and Samuel Royce have run mills also at this place.

At Felchville, for many years Myron A. Davis built up and carried on an extensive business in the manufacture of maple and oak chairs, obtaining a good reputation, with prosperity so long as his health permitted him to give personal attention to its details. The business practically ceased at his death in 1893, and this business has not been carried on there since, any further than to finish up the odds and ends of stock left by Mr. Davis. B. M. Newton is the present owner of the property and runs in it a custom saw and shingle mill, with planers, lathes and circular saws. This water power is the best in town, but during many months cannot be depended upon to run the machinery. The complicated questions about the water rights of this property and of the mill site next below have been the subject of much heated discussion, searching of real estate records, and examination of nice questions as to water rights, but happily they have all been laid aside.

The water rights on the site below the Newton mill all became merged in Hook & Burnham, in the fall of 1893, who own the property formerly owned by three different men—the grist mill, saw mill and the bedstead shop properties. Since this time Hook & Burnham have run a custom grist mill and kept for sale flour and feed under the management of Norman E. Perkins, Esq.

The Felchville Stock Store was organized March 21, 1858 with a capital stock of \$1645.00 divided into shares of \$10.00 each. The shareholders were, Hiram Goddard, 5; Amasa Watkins, 3; Clark Wardner, 1; Fred Wardner, 13; Trumbull Ackley, 10; Joseph A. Davis, 20; Orpheus Coburn, 7; John Adams, 2; E. G. Evans, 2 1-2; Wm. Giddings, 1; Benj. F. Stearns, 23; Hosea Benjamin, 2; Ebenezer Densmore, 5; E. W. Watkins, 25; Honestus Stearns, 1.

This business was conducted in the brick store north of the hotel. Benj. F. Stearns was agent and Fred Wardner clerk the first year. For the second year, Fred Wardner was agent and clerk. Sometime during the second year, Geo. W. Kendall put in as much additional capital as the Company then had and Fred Wardner bought out all the other stockholders and the firm of Wardner & Kendall was formed. This co-partnership continued until 1861, when Mr. Wardner sold out to Mr. Kendall. Subsequently Mr. Kendall sold out to Wm. P. Chamberlain and Elmer D. Keyes and the well known firm of Chamberlain and Keyes was organized and transacted a large wholesale and retail business in the same store.

In March, 1860, when the Editor located in Felchville as an attorney at law, Wardner & Kendall were doing mercantile business in the brick store north of the hotel, Levi C. Fay in the brick store south of it and Otis Baldwin in a building then standing on the site of the store subsequently occupied by Hook and Burnham.

Paul W. Stearns then manufactured bedsteads east of the grist mill, Joseph A. Davis run the saw mill just north of it, Eliphalet S. Page kept the hotel, Perez B. Wolcott was the village blacksmith, Alonzo S. Gilbert the harness maker, Martin Curley and Roswell W. Hoadley the shoemakers, Prosper Merrill the manufacturer of woolen goods.

Clarence N. Hook began the mercantile business at

Felchville, June 6, 1882 in the small building theretofore occupied by Gates & Hewlett. Mr. Hook built the store now standing on that site in 1887, and continued in business there until Oct. 13, 1893 when the co-partnership of Hook & Burnham was formed, and these gentlemen continued business together until the dissolution in June 1903, and since that time George D. Burnham has carried on the mercantile business and Clarence N. Hook has taken the grist mill.

Business at South Reading.

Lewis Robinson for many years kept a retail store in the stone building opposite his house at So. Reading, and was succeeded by Wm. S. A. Morse.

Rufus Buck kept a general store in So. Reading for many years in the old red store building that has been destroyed by fire.

Rufus Buck and Daniel P. Jones entered in co-partnership in the mercantile business at So. Reading in the "Buck Store" in 1837.

A very careful inventory of their stock of goods, April 5, 1841, showed the amount to have been \$2127.15 including a large variety of articles adapted to the wants of an agricultural community, and among their stock in trade was 27 gallons of Malaga wine, 10 gallons of port wine 25 gallons of brandy, 3 1-2 gallons cider, and 9 rum barrels.

There is also a long list of debts due to and owing by the firm, of interest as giving the names of people who then resided in the vicinity of South Reading or came there for business.

Their ledger was neatly kept in a large round hand. As showing the extent of their patronage, I noticed that the ledger carries accounts with 361 people residing in the different parts of Reading, and in Windsor, Weathersfield, Cavendish, Ludlow, Plymouth, Bridgewater and Woodstock.

The exact date of the dissolution of this firm is not known by the editor, but the entries seem to indicate that they were in business together in 1843.

The So. Reading Farmers' Store was organized April 30, 1859, with 40 members who subscribed \$10.00 each.

It may be of interest to future generations to know who these enterprising gentlemen were, and we give a list of them: Lewis Robinson, Edmond Davis, Moses Colburn, William M. Williams, Daniel P. Jones, Marvin Robinson, Alonzo P. Watkins, Hiram Rice, A. W. Goddard, Willard H. Dow, Silas A. Robinson, William Town, James A. Bixby, Sylvester Coburn, Washington Keyes, Parker Kinsman, Elijah M. Haskell, Stephen Dow, A. E. Morse, Justin T. Robinson, Loren Fullam, Gardner Herrick, E. D. North, Samuel Herrick, Orin Sawyer, Alfred Watkins, Alvan Wilkins, Leonard Spaulding, Justin S. Davis, Benjamin S. Barnard, Rhoda Robinson, John L. Hubbard, George Herrick, Almos A. Bixby, George W. Rich, B. F. Ordway, S. P. Bryant, James Whitten, L. Carlos Davis.

This co-partnership had a formal constitution and by-laws, and was organized by the election of Willard H. Dow, president; Gardner Herrick, vice-president; Wm. M. Williams, secretary and treasurer; Moses Colburn, Daniel P. Jones and Marvin Robinson, directors; Lewis Robinson, collector.

The business was conducted in the stone store of Lewis Robinson,—now owned by Calvin Robinson.

Chas. M. Hoadley was the clerk in charge from May, 1859 to sometime in 1860.

The business did not prove to be profitable. There was an action of account brought and the business was finally wound up with an assessment of \$8.86 on each shareholder, under date of Feb. 8, 1862.

Silas A. Robinson was for many years the only blacksmith at South Reading. His shop stood at the

junction of the main street with the road leading south to the Washburn Keyes place, now owned by Gilbert A. Davis and occupied by Reuben Wells. Later, this business was carried on by Geo. F. Rand and Edwin W. Royce opposite the meeting house, by Robert Smith in a shop next east of Calvin Robinson's, and by Roy Matthews and J. C. Southerland west of the meeting house.

Since 1874, the mercantile business at South Reading has been conducted at different times by Calvin Robinson, James P. Wheeler, Robert L. Stewart and Mrs. Hattie L. Wilkins.

CHAPTER XLII.

Felchville's Celebration. July 4, 1893.—"Woodstock Standard."

Historical Items.

Tuesday was Felchville's great day, and was wonderfully well improved. The little village was crowded full of visitors, who found much to enjoy. The parade in the forenoon was a notable feature. The "horribles" were great in number and effect; the local hits being numerous and of more than ordinary merit. Dr. Morgan was out with his portable office on a two-wheeled cart, C. N. Hook was trying to swap pigs with everybody in the crowd, the Valley House coach was a great hit, the Maple Grove House coach likewise, the Windsor and Felchville stage was in the procession, as were also M. G. Amsden's meat cart, J. M. Stearns' law office, and many other local institutions. One of the wittiest turn-outs having no local significance was a burlesque on the administration—a wagon labelled "Protection on Wool; vote for Grover Cleveland and shear the pig." Piggy was there, also the shears and the man to manipulate them. There was a great cry and mighty little wool. The Grand Army Post and the forty-four young ladies in white with sashes and banners representing the States of the Union made a very pretty and impressive show, while the Tyson band rendered music suitable for the occasion. After the parade the crowd adjourned to Dwight Hammond's pleasant grove for literary exercises and a basket picnic. There the following program was rendered:

Singing by Choir.

Prayer, Rev. A. Heald.

Music, Tyson Cornet Band.

Address, Hon. Gilbert A. Davis.

Recitations, Miss Cora Mahoney,
Miss Gladys Gilson,
Miss Nettie Allen,
Miss Ethel Ely.

Music, Choir.

Recitations, Miss Beulah Vittum,
Miss Grace White,
Miss Nora Nichols,

Address, Rev. J. Harris.

Music, "America," by the people.

Three cheers for the day.

Hon. G. A. Davis' speech was an eloquent portrayal of the progress of the states in matters civil and political and special mention was made of the prominent place when women are coming to occupy in the walks of life. The young people's parts in the program were of a specially interesting character, and well rendered. Rev. Mr. Harris entertained his listeners with a few humorous stories, and closed with an eloquent peroration touching national progress and pleading for its continuance. The music was good.

The various athletics contests in the village in the afternoon excited a great deal of interest. The winners are given below in the order of merit of their performances :

Sack race, Griswold, Kendall, Perkins.

Potato Race, Cole, Coolidge, Walker, Lockwood.

Three-legged race, Cole and Perkins, Cole and Griswold.

50-yard dash, 5 contestants, F. A. Hoyt, F. H. Cole.

100-yard dash, 6 contestants, Hart, Merrill, Round.

At the close of the athletic sports in front of the hotel, F. C. Davis, Esq., of Springfield, introduced Hon. A. F. Hubbard of Tyson, who from the upper balcony of the Valley House addressed the people in a

brief, but impassioned and eloquent speech, bringing out by contrast the progress of our country and exhorting the young people to the honest performance of their duty at the polls and in national life.

Following this, O. S. Holden and Henry Stocker sang "Hurrah for Old New England" and "Larboard Watch" with all their old-time spirit and effect.

It is not too much to say that the celebration was a great success, exceeding in every particular the anticipations of its projectors. Mine Host, Rist of the Valley House, is also to be congratulated on the excellent service rendered to the crowd of guests. Over a hundred and fifty were served dinners, and at the ball in the evening eighty-five couples participated. It was a very pleasant occasion.

During the forenoon a game of ball was played between a Cavendish and a Felchville nine, in which the Felchvilles were beautifully walloped. In the afternoon another game was played between the Amsdens and Felchvilles, resulting in favor of the Reading boys.

Historical Items.

A meeting of the proprietors of Reading was warned by John Weld, Justice of the Peace, to be held at the house of Caleb Jones in Reading, Sept. 3, 1783, to choose a committee to lay out the people's lands and to receive the return of a committee to look up the ancient records.

This was published in Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of THE VERMONT JOURNAL AND UNIVERSAL ADVERTISER.

This periodical which has had a continuous existence until this day, was first published at Windsor on Thursday, Aug. 7, 1783, and in its first issue was also published Washington's Farewell Address.

Under this survey, range lines run north and south, lot lines run east and west. There were eleven ranges

but the quantity in each lot was variable.

The first highway in Reading was laid out by the selectmen, commencing at Eleazer Hathorn's mill—near Bailey's Mills—via the Center village to Plymouth passing by Reading pond.

A road diverged to the north at the Dow Place, and passed over to Woodstock via Dea. Nathaniel Pratt's.

In 1818, the Vermont Journal was published by W. Spooner, and in the issue of Sept. 7, 1818 I find the following, which, however, never went further towards the creation of a new town.

PETITION.

"The inhabitants of Plymouth, Reading, Cavendish
"and Ludlow will petition the General Assembly of Ver-
"mont at the next session that there may be an incor-
"porate town set off from the corners of the aforesaid
"towns."

CHAPTER XLIII.

Physicians, Natives or Residents of Reading, Vt.

Supt. of Schools Since 1870.

(References are to Vol. I, History of Reading, 1874.)

Aldrich, Levi, resided at Reading Center. (Vol. I, page 75.)

Bowen, Marcellus. (Vol. I, page 70).

Bowen, Silas, University of Vermont, 1824. Received the honorary degree of M. D., from Middlebury college in 1829, d 1857 at Kearney, Neb. (Vol. I, page 73).

Clark, Ripley, see sketch in Vol. I, page 75, and in this volume.

Day, Elkannah, (first resident physician. See pages 28 and 29, Vol. I).

Emory, W. G., resided at Reading Center, (page 74, Vol. I).

Foster, L., (page 75, Vol. I).

Guild, Harvey M., resided at Felchville, 1874-'87.

Guernsey, George., (page 75, Vol. I).

Harlow, L. D., Philadelphia.

Hammond, L. B., see sketch in this volume.

Kinson, W. R., at Felchville from 1901 to present time.

Knowles, W. L., at Felchville from 1899 to 1901.

Locke, Clarence O., at Felchville in 1873-'4.

Marcy, Woodbury, at Reading Center.

Morgan, F. C., at Felchville from 1890 to the present time.

Morgan, Samuel H.

Morgan, A. L., see sketch of Morgan family in this

volume.

Meachem, Fred, (son of Erastus) resides in California.

Megrath, William A., resides in Loudon, N. H.

Marshall, —, (page 75, Vol. 1).

Minard, Isaac, (page 74, Vol. 1).

Morse. —, (page 75, Vol. 1).

Mead, —, (page 74, Vol. 1).

Osborne, James P. See sketch in this volume.

Paige, Wm. L., at Reading Center.

Putnam, Levi, (Vol. 1, page 75).

Robinson, Walter S.. practiced at Felchville from the spring of 1864 to — when he removed to Taunton Mass.

Sherwin, Orlando W., Dartmouth. 1865, resided at Hammondsville and since at Woodstock, Vt.

Sherwin, Aurelius C., U. V. M., Burlington, resided in the north-west part of the town, practiced in Sharon Vt., and Tremont Temple, Boston.

Swain, Marcus, practiced at Essex, Vt. and Englewood, Iowa (see Vol. 1, page 75).

Swain, Oliver.

Stearns, Geo. W., resided in New Bedford, Mass. See Stearns family.

Smith, —, resided at South Reading. (See Vol. 1, page 74).

Smith, Frank A., Felchville, now resides in Lebanon N. H.

Stewart, C. L., resided at Reading Center and subsequently at Randolph, Vt.

Tolles, Nathaniel, resided at the Center from 1831 to 1841 and subsequently at Claremont, N. H.

Wetherbee, Wm. B., (Vol. 1, page 73).

Wardner, James, resided at So. Reading, Cavendish and Plainfield, N. H.

Willis, A. E., 1876-'7 at Felchville.

Whiting, Joseph, (Vol. 1, page 74).

Superintendent of Schools in Reading from 1870.

Year when
elected.

1870 Joseph Barber.

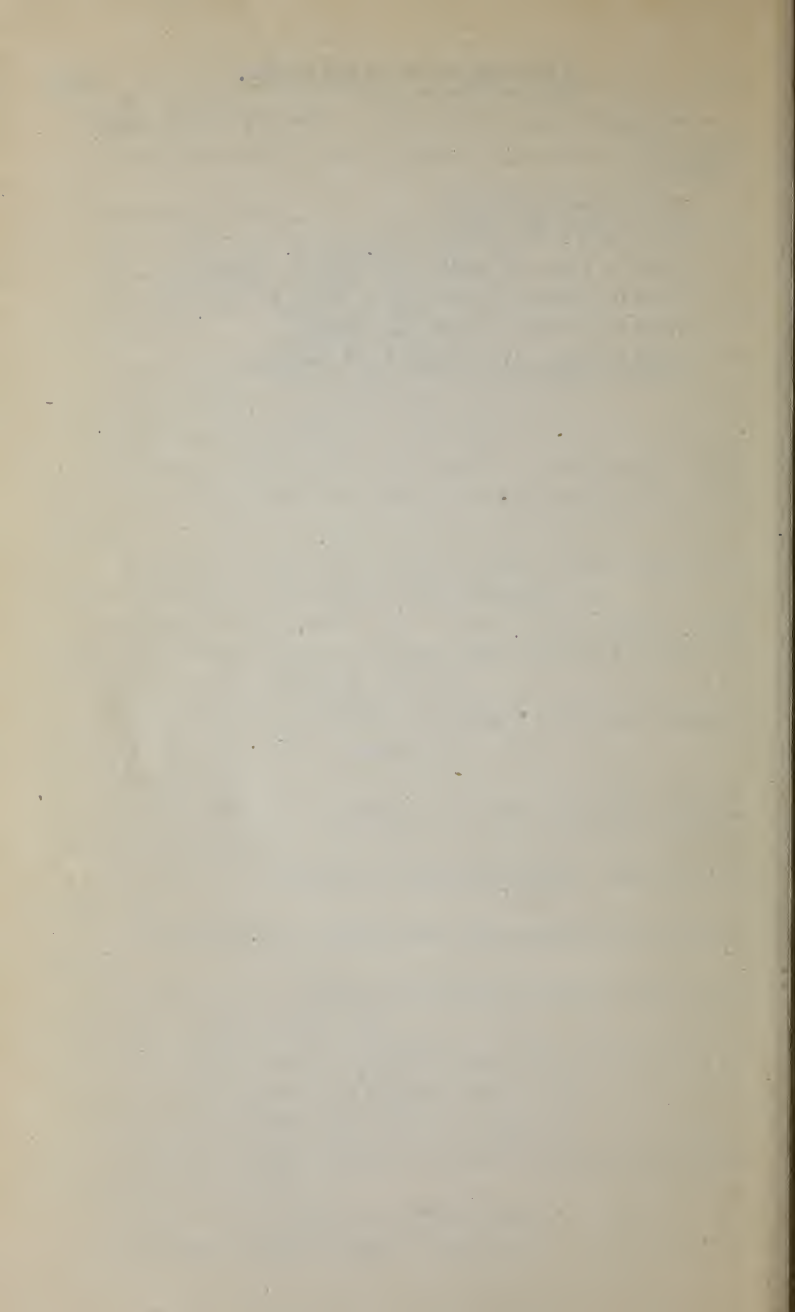
1871 Silas W. Pike.

1872 to 1879 inclusive, Gilbert A. Davis,

1880 to 1885 inclusive, Mrs. Ella J. Holden.

1886 and 1887, Frank H. Clark.

1888 to date, Mrs. Ella J. Holden.



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Errata and Memoranda by Editor.

Errata :

Page 63, 14th Regiment should be 16th.

Page 176, Edwin E., should be Erwin E. Keyes.

This index does not contain the names of all persons mentioned in the book, but all names can be readily found by families and classifications.

